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LIVERPOOL FC

OFFICIAL LIVERPOOL FC MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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tribute to a legend
LFC Ladies
in their own words
Tiago Icardi: my
Mersey mission
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[exclusive
interview]

Sakho


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 Writers: John Hynes, Simon Hughes
 Art Editor Neil Haines Designer Lisa Marie Cichay

Contributors: Mark Platt, Gerd Res, Dave Ball
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HERE'S TO YOU, BILL

Bill Shankly was never a man for personal accolades – which was part of his great charm – but LFC and its fans could not let the occasion of what would've been his 100th birthday pass without tribute. The Kop mosaic prior to kick-off against Manchester United was followed by a minute's applause – and a win.





DAN'S THE MAN AGAIN

Daniel Sturridge's dance celebration has become a common sight during 2013. But such was his – and Martin Skrtel's – euphoria which he nodded in the only goal against Man United that for once the shapes had to take a back seat.



LESSONS FROM SHANKS

Amid this special anniversary *Simon Hughes* looks at what we can learn from the great man

"Success is
in the mind
– you must
believe you
are the best
and then make
sure you are"

Believe you are the best

Having worked at other clubs for more than a decade prior to Liverpool with lesser talented players, Shankly appreciated the value of boosting the confidence of individuals in order to take the team further and, perhaps, overachieve. "A lot of football success is in the mind," he said. "You must believe that you are the best and then make sure that you are."

Don't make changes for the sake of it

Unusually for a football manager, Shankly chose not to bring in his own men when he moved to Anfield

from Huddersfield in 1959. It proved to be an inspired decision – the entire future of the club, long after Shankly's retirement and even his death, rested with those Bill had agreed to originally keep on. Bob Paisley, the former physio who would go on to win six league titles and three European Cups as manager, had just been appointed first-team trainer. Running the reserves was Joe Fagan, who'd win the club's fourth European Cup as part of an historic treble.

Use colour as a weapon

On special occasions like key matches, cup finals, significant television appearances, Shankly reliably wore a tangerine shirt with



a red tie – colours that are vivid and aggressive. It was also his idea to switch Liverpool's home kit from red shirt and white shorts and socks to all-red. Psychologically he thought it would intimidate opponents. It did.

Create a sense of identity

Above the stairs leading down to the pitch hangs a sign stating *This is Anfield*. It was installed by Bill and its purpose was to both overawe visiting teams and to bring the Liverpool players who touch it good luck. "It's there to remind our lads who they're playing for, and to remind the opposition who they're playing against."

Keep it simple

There was no tactical masterplan at Liverpool. Players were guided in training sessions but not overly coached. It inspired a confidence during matches where players were trusted to make key decisions themselves. "Football is a simple game based on the giving and taking of passes, of controlling the ball and of making yourself available to receive a pass," said Shankly. "It is terribly simple."

Innovate

In an era of 'notebook managers' scribbling thoughts throughout games, it is interesting to note that Shankly himself carried a book everywhere he went, jotting down every idea or useful piece of information. Knowledge was seen as power. Training systems were charted, players' fitness levels were scrupulously monitored, and Shankly began having opponents watched – which in the early 60s was relatively unheard-of.

Exaggerate

When Ron Yeats signed for Liverpool, Bill invited journalists to walk around "a colossus" whom he believed to be "seven feet tall." Yeats was indeed tall but only around 6ft 2in. Shankly was only half-joking when he said: "With him in defence we could play Arthur Askey in goal." It was a comment devised to create an air of superiority at his club.

Don't make excuses

According to Shankly there was no reason why Liverpool should lose any match. Excuses were unacceptable – too many injuries, suspensions, bad luck – it did not matter. He was particularly ruthless with injuries, seeing them as a sign of weakness. Nothing would stop him or his team. "Sickness would not have kept me away from this one,"





He said after the 1971 FA Cup semi-final win over Everton which Blues boss Harry Catterick missed through illness. "If I'd been dead I would have had them bring the basket to the ground, prop it up in the stands and cut a hole in the lid."

Keep victory in perspective

Even when Liverpool won a trophy

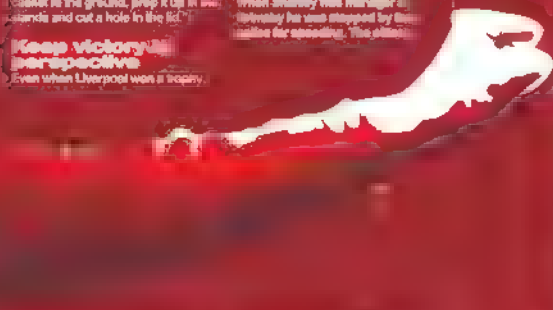
"off we had a saying that he would 'hit you on the head with a big stick from the boardroom'."

Keep the opposition guessing

Bill respected all opponents but did not intend to approach players and try to gain a psychological advantage over them before matches. George Best recalled a moment when Manchester United came to Anfield and Sherry approached the visitors in the tunnel. "Guess what says?" he said, introducing a little orange towel. "I've had a go on the sheets that give the line when the away team will come. And it says here, in a fortnight! With best, he'd disappeared back into the office. Liverpool was 5-0."

Have a response for everything

When Sherry was manager of Liverpool he was always by the ready for anything. The photo



offer his congratulations. "You'll be playing near a great side," he pointed out. Even at the most somere times Bill did not miss an opportunity. When attending the funeral of Everton legend Dale Dean he was impressed by the size of the crowd outside St James' church. "I know this is a sad occasion but I think that Dale would be pleased to know that even in death he could draw a bigger crowd than Everton ever did Saturday afternoon."

Put the fans first

During Sherry's 15 seasons at Liverpool he must have been the most photographed man in the Mersey West. He would always make time for the supporters, realising that the club would not exist without them. They revered him—but he revered them too. An example of his loyalty came in 1985 when he denied a request from Chelsea manager Brian Goldson for the Cup Final Salute. "I've never seen denied the Salute standing on the Kop," he said. "I have seen it but not going to my mates on the Kop."

Recognise your strengths

and he nothing. It is never too late to change things. Sherry always paid to players like Ian St John and Ken Welsh for 18 months too long. After a humbling defeat in the FA Cup in Wembley in 1976, he decided to stop up his squad and start again. It was a painful process for the manager and his players but it proved to be the right route to take. Within three seasons his Liverpool team were winning European trophies.

Don't make excuses

Bill's crushing body made him one of the great men repeating his saying: "We were pro-Liverpool and not pro-Scouse." Sherry got on with most managers. Funds did not last long. For example, he said that Eric Clough was "worse than the rain in Manchester—at least the rain in Manchester stops occasionally." Yet the job got on famously.

Love football

Sherry's life was his profession. It was an obsession. He could not be confined to office hours, and it was once reported that he celebrated his wedding anniversary by taking his long-suffering wife Heidi on a holiday to visit to former-league footballers. Bill related that although not only he said: "Of course I did take my wife to see Newcastle as an anniversary present—it was in Sherry's World I have got more in the football season? Anybody want Newcastle season?"

Sherry would not sleep until, like Napoleon, he had "conquered the sleepy world." In order to make sure, he would remind the players that their achievements were relatively insignificant. "Pressure is making down the pit. Pressure is making no work at all. Pressure is making to escape relegation on 80 challenges a week. Pressure is not the European Cup or the Championship or the Cup Final. That's the moment."

Allow players to express themselves

Sherry wanted 11 captains. He wanted to see players figure things out and really matters if it was going wrong. "You never get shouted at for trying to change something out on the pitch," recalls Roger Hunt. "You were always taught to work things out for yourself. Billed you, if you tried something stupid and it didn't come

involved told him: "You were going a bit fast there, Mr. Sherry." To which Sherry replied: "You must have been going fast yourself to keep up with me." On another occasion Gerry Byrne asked Bill for a pay-rise after being selected to play for England. Byrne argued that international status was proof he had become a better player with his club. "I may be wrong on other points, boss," Byrne said, pressing his point. "But I am right on this one, aren't I?" "So what if you are?" Sherry told him. "Even a broken clock is right twice in a day."

Take the money properly

When Sherry arrived, Everton were the city's premier club. He addressed this not just by results and trophies but by honour too. For instance, when the Blues beat Liverpool in the signing of Alan Ball after offering more money, Sherry phoned Ball to



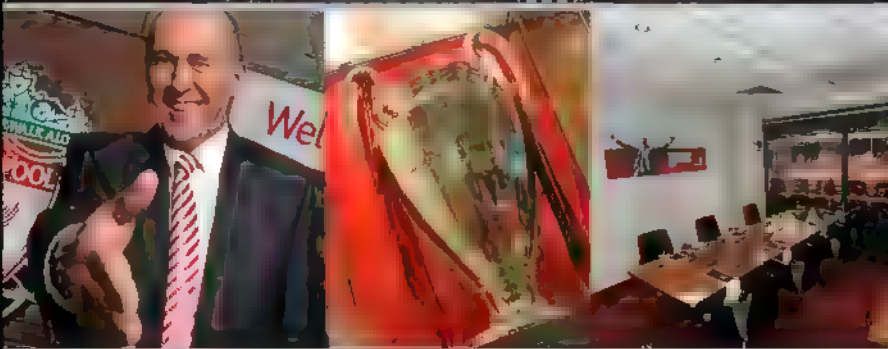


I'M HERE TO WIN THINGS WITH LIVERPOOL

Mamadou Sakho left his beloved PSG to pursue a new dream at Anfield, he tells John Hynes



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Mamadou looking at home at Melwood

A few days after Mamadou Sakho joined Liverpool, the club's first-team physio Chris Morgan twitted: *Had to reinforce the equipment for one of the new signing's strength screening #Powerhouse #Sakho.*

The line may not have been as eloquently put as Bill Shankly's famous description of Ron Yeats being a colossus. However, the message is similar. Sakho has presence. Watching him bound down the stairs at Melwood, wearing bright white trainers, confirms as much. Although not as tall as you might expect, the French defender cuts an imposing figure.

When our photographer asks Mamadou to express his 'mean and moody' side he does so without any fuss. It almost comes naturally. The sight brings a smile from the passing Daniel Sturridge, who cheekily enquires: 'Do you need a pretty face for the picture?'

"He's one of the most gifted players of his generation and ready to play in England"

That line from the striker cracks Sakho's facade and he laughs. Although easily able to intimidate when required, he is actually a friendly individual. This is demonstrated when he tells us: 'I am in no rush' as he sits down to answer our questions.

Way back in September 2008 the *Scout* section of the Sky Sports website focused on Sakho. They suggested his potential value could one day be £5 million. At that point, and until recently, his name may have been unfamiliar to Premier League fans. On the other side of the English Channel he has long been tipped as a future star.

'Mamadou is one of the most gifted players of his generation,' says Timothe Crepin of *France Football* magazine. 'He has played at every level with the various French under-age teams. He is a solid defender who, physically, is very well equipped to play in England.'

Hailing from Paris, he was born in the 18th Arrondissement – an area of Paris likened to London's Tower Hamlets. 'Sometimes it was tough for my parents to earn a living and they moved around to find work,' he recalls. 'My mum did some different jobs, such as a chambermaid in a hotel. It was an enjoyable childhood.'



We didn't need much to keep us happy – just a football and a few mates to have a game. Once we had that there were no worries.

When he was eight the family moved to the eastern Paris district of Porte De Vincennes. While still new to the area, he would spend evenings kicking a ball around by himself in front of their home. On one occasion a man walked past. Sakho smiles as he recalls the moment. He asked me to show him what I could do. When he asked me to show him some more tricks – started heading the ball.

He gave me an address and told me to turn up there the following Wednesday for a trial at Paris FC. I know it sounds like a dream, but that's what happened.

The French club, now in the country's third division, had formed in 1969 and later amalgamated with Stade Saint Germain to form PSG before going their separate ways again. Filled with excitement, the youngster couldn't sleep the night before the big day. "I went to bed in my kit, I even had my boots on because I wanted to make sure I was ready."

The audition went well and he became a Paris FC player. Although a big moment in a young life, the idea of one day earning a living from the



game hadn't entered Sakho's mind. "Becoming a professional didn't occur to me then. I just went along with my boots over my shoulder and enjoyed playing with friends. There was a nice atmosphere at the club.

Operating mainly as a tall midfielder he stayed there for four years. Then PSG came calling.

It sounds like the perfect location for a young and talented Parisian to fulfil his potential. Initially, though, that was

not the case. "Eventually I did have a great time at PSG," Sakho explains. "But at the start it wasn't easy for me. I found it difficult to adjust during the first six months."

"I suppose I was a little bit of a rebel. I'm from the suburbs of Paris – an area where kids don't pay too much attention to what their parents say. If my mum told me to go to bed at eight o'clock I didn't really listen. So a guy at the PSG dormitory had no chance

Sakho club, new challenge



"Being a leader isn't something that has ever worried me – I've always embraced it"

of telling me when it was time for lights out. It got to the point where I had just had enough. I came home and told my dad I was finished."

A coach at the club named Christian Mas intervened: "He spoke to my parents and sorted it out... stayed, and from that point on everything went well for me at the academy."

Mas, now working as part of the backroom staff with the Oman national side, would become a pivotal figure in Sakho's life. "During his first year with us Mamadou lost his dad," he says. "It was obviously a difficult and painful moment so I tried to look after him. I paid him more attention than the other youngsters."

"Since then we have always kept in touch. During the summer we exchanged a few text messages. I am extremely proud of him, very proud of the courage he has displayed to leave Paris to try to win a place in the Liverpool team."

When former PSG defender Paul Le Guen, now in charge of the Oman national team, returned to become manager at the French club in January 2007 he noticed the capabilities of Sakho and bought him out for a chat. "I was maybe 18 and had just started training with the first team," says Mamadou. "Paul told me that had it all and could play for France if I continued working hard."

Such advice is probably employed to motivate youngsters all over the world. Le Guen backed up his words by putting Sakho in the team for a game away at Valenciennes that October. Cedric Chapuis, a French football journalist, explains how it came about. "The manager was upset by the performances of the senior players. He dropped some of them and brought in six or seven youngsters. Sakho was one of those and he chose him as captain for the day. He was, and still is, the youngest captain in the history of the club."

After the game, a goalless draw in which ex-Red David Ngog also

featured for PSG, Le Guen was asked about the temporary skipper. Sakho loves the club and symbolises this new generation, for which we have such high hopes," he commented. "Lending out your boyhood team at the age of 17 would probably overwhelm most individuals. When Sakho was given the news before the match, he responded by laughing. He didn't see it as a problem, more of a continuation of what had gone before."

All through my career, whether it was at the age of 12, 15 or in the reserve team, I'd been given that responsibility," he says. "With the U16 and U17 national teams I'd been captain too. So to do it for the first team didn't bring extra pressure. Being a leader isn't something that has ever worried me. I've always embraced it."



In 2011 he became the captain on a permanent basis. When asked why numerous managers have seen him as their leader on the pitch he is too modest to list his qualities. "It's hard to say why someone is [a captain], Perhaps Steven Gerrard is better placed to answer that. I think the most important thing for me – with or without an armband – is to give my all and do my utmost for the team."

PSG's 2-0 home win over Guingamp earlier this season was hardly a classic, with the goals from Adrian Rabiot and Zlatan Ibrahimovic coming in injury time. What made the evening

Among the crowd of 44,943 the name of Sakho was chanted. "Thank you!" they sang in acknowledgement of their former defender's efforts.





“Winning the title with PSG was magnificent, now I want it with Liverpool”

This followed on from a letter the PSG supporters' club, Paris Kopa, penned to Sakho in which they described his departure as similar to a child leaving the family nest to start a new life.

Mention of his hometown team creates a glint of recognition in the player's eyes. “I am one of them”, he says of the Parc des Princes regulars. “And I know how they feel about why they might be sad because not many players come through the ranks there – grow up in Paris and spend a long time with the club.”

Clearly, leaving wasn't an easy decision for the 23-year-old and he only decided to do so after giving it plenty of thought. Since the Qatar Investment Authority first became

involved during 2011, life at Paris St Germain had undoubtedly changed. In the manager's office Antoine Kombouaré was replaced by Carlo Ancelotti, who then left for Real Madrid during the summer and was succeeded by current incumbent and former Marseille, Inter and Manchester United defender Laurent Blanc. Much coveted players like Ibrahimović, Ezequiel Lavezzi, Edinson Cavani and Javier Pastore arriving illustrated the lofty ambitions of the owners.

In Sakho's position Alex and Théo Silva were purchased. It meant he enjoyed less and less playing time. In July there was also the signing of ~~Marquinhos~~ Marquinhos from Roma.

“There was plenty of competition for places,” Sakho confirms. “don't mind that, I think it's good. But for me it no longer felt like healthy competition. I began to think that, no matter what I did, the team was already picked.”

He has no regrets about departing

and looks back on his years in France with plenty of pride. “PSG will always be in my heart. But when you're not part of someone's plans it's a simple choice – left with my head held high.”

“When I started out as a boy I wanted to be successful with PSG and it happened – I won the French Cup, the League Cup and the league. Winning the title was magnificent. Now I want to do the same with Liverpool. That's why I'm here.”

With the Little Blues

In 2007 Sakho was a member of the France squad that travelled to South Korea for the U17 World Cup finals. After finishing second in a group that contained Japan, Haiti and eventual champions Nigeria, the French reached the last eight. There the adventure ended with a penalty shoot-out defeat by Spain. France's top scorer (with four) was Damien Le Tallec, the cousin of former Liverpool player Anthony.

Victor Moses, who joined the Reds on the same day as Sakho, also took part in the tournament. Although the winger now plays for Nigeria, he netted England's opening goal in a 1-1 draw with North Korea. The Three Lions also lost at the quarter-final stage, to Germany.



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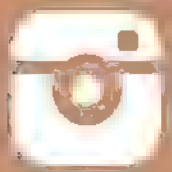
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Speed, skill and a touch of guile
- Daniel Sturridge has got it all

Didi



HAMANN

When I joined Manchester City in the summer of 2006 I noticed a young striker who possessed plenty of talent. Daniel Sturridge had ended the previous campaign by scoring twice in the FA Youth Cup final against Liverpool and impressing everyone who watched that game (LFC won 3-2 on aggregate).

He was still a kid but there was no doubting his potential. He could do anything and everyone at City noted him very highly. I've seen plenty of players who, at the age of 17 or 18, look like they can go on to enjoy great careers but don't do so due to a variety of reasons. I thought Daniel had a real chance. However, you can never be certain. Progressing from a talented teenager to first-team regular is a huge jump. There are many obstacles in the way, as Daniel has found out.

Unfortunately some niggling injuries prevented him from getting a consecutive run out with the first team at City. He eventually moved on to Chelsea where, apart from a short spell, it just didn't happen for him. I think those experiences make him really appreciate what he's got at Liverpool now. He seems to like the club and is enjoying his football.

The way he started the season was superb. I've played with some great strikers. Jürgen Klinsmann and Jean Pierre Papin were nearing the end of their careers when I was at Bayern



Munich but their quality was still obvious. At Newcastle there was Alan Shearer and then I was lucky enough to work with Michael Owen, Robbie Fowler, Emile Heskey, Jan Ulfmanen and Nicolas Anelka at Liverpool.

That list contains different types of strikers. What I like about Daniel is that he can do everything. His all-round game is superb. Pace is one of his major and most noticeable assets. Before he joined in January, I felt the team was lacking in that department. His speed allows Liverpool to stretch opponents. Defenders don't want him running in behind them so they drop off deep. That creates more room for Sturridge and his teammates.

Then there is his ability to beat opponents with trickery. Not too many centre-forwards can go past men or evade challenges the way he does. Technically he is very good too.

Strikers are judged first and foremost on the number of goals they contribute. Daniel has excelled in that department. The variety of his goals has also been impressive. Against Stoke he drilled in a long-range shot. The winner in the Man United game

was a close-range poacher's effort. And his equaliser at Swansea was all about a striker's ability to anticipate a chance and move accordingly.

When strikers are in such form it's great to play alongside them. You just want to give them the ball as early as possible. If you can feed them possession quickly that means they are able to turn quicker and go towards goal. Defenders hate facing that. The goal mentioned in the Stoke game is a prime example of it.

Another plus to having a striker in good form is the belief it gives the rest of the team. When Michael Owen was at his best we knew that if we were one, or even two goals, down we still had a chance because he usually only needed a single opportunity to score. That knowledge gives you extra motivation to keep going.

With Daniel playing the way he is Brendan Rodgers' team are probably feeling the same way. To see him doing so well is very pleasing. His desire to make it has always been there and it's helped him get this far. Follow Didi on Twitter

@didihamann

"His all-round game is superb and his pace allows Liverpool to stretch opponents"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

BARNES

On the eve
of a special
celebration the
Liverpool legend's
place in Anfield
folklore is assessed
by Simon Hughes

John Barnes was born on 11 October 1959, and grew up in a council house in the suburb of South Liverpool. He was an excellent footballer from an early age, and his natural consistency in representing Liverpool has earned him the nickname of 'The Iron Ox'.

Barnes was Liverpool's no. 11 with a difference. Despite his status as an attacking winger, in the early years he was often a regular in defence, where he wished to marry off Harry Douglas. He did

not seem to move as fluid as other wingers in the league, which he could watch on his balcony. Successes came, however, from sheer speed by that of an inner-city lad.

His style, elegant and light feet, marked him out as a 'class' player, and when he was young in that area of the field that will now be unforgotten, he was not the only star of the club. He and his great mate, Ian 'Goalie' Jackson, contributed

towards two league titles (1988 and 1990) and a successful campaign in the FA Cup (1992).

Footballers though have long been defined solely by their impact as a professional: their achievements. Perhaps there is too little consideration for the sacrifices, no matter how 'relative' that went before.

I met Barnes, who celebrates his 50th birthday next month, to write a chapter about him for my new book *Red Machine*. I knew about John Barnes, the Liverpool player. But I was keen to find out more about what made the footballer John Barnes, the person.

I was aware that he made engaging copy. Barnes has always spoken eloquently and thoughtfully on the subject of racism in football and society at large. He has done so from a position of experience. He was the first black footballer to be signed from another club by either Liverpool or Everton. "Football reflects society so it's foolish to separate the two," he says.

He has a balanced perspective on life. He told me his values stem from a childhood amongst brigadiers and army generals in a prosperous barrack suburb of Kingston, the capital of Jamaica. His father, a colonel in the country's Defence Force, and his mother, a senior academic lecturer on science of the mind, raised the family with a blend of discipline and positive thinking.

Barnes was brought up with a sense of superiority. He understood that racism was institutionalised in the UK but viewed it as a belief of the uneducated. It didn't affect him like it might others. In his eyes he was always better than that. Just as Howard Gayle, the first black footballer to represent Liverpool's first team, was a product of his upbringing, so was Barnes. Gayle was used to confronting racism for as long as he can remember on the sink estates of Norris Green. Barnes did not have to from a young age.

His personality meant he was the kind of man that everybody could get on with. His ability helped too. When supporters of a rival club hurled bananas in his direction during an FA Cup tie in 1988, he responded by delicately flicking them with his heel back towards touchline. It was typical of him but his reaction on pitch epitomised the player. Moments later he would glide down the wing and arch a cross for Ray Houghton to score a decisive goal.

"I grew up in a middle-class family and I had no self-worth issues at all," he said. "For someone to call *Black Man's Burden* a burden makes any sense to me. I consider people who use those words as ignorant."



Why should it affect me when it doesn't?"

Barnes displays an impressive mix of intelligence and understanding (a word he uses regularly) that makes him try to look at the opposite point of view to appreciate it better. He arrived in England during the early winter months of 1976. It was a time of social chaos and political shifts. Yet Barnes, aged 12, was shielded in London his family first lived in the Selridge Hotel near Oxford Street before moving into the affluent area of Hampstead. He was enrolled into one of the more reputable inner-city state schools, Marylebone Grammar.

He liked football but it was not an obsession. Before entering career in the military his father Kenneth had played for as an amateur, managed and became president of the Jamaican national team and the FA. Although the West Indies is more famous for its cricket and Jamaica indeed has provided both batting guile and bowling force with Michael Holding, Jeffrey Dujon and Courtney Walsh all hailing from the island, football is unchallenged as the sport of the people. My footballing heroes were all West German. I fell in love with the team of 1974. I could not take my eyes off Franz Beckenbauer and Wolfgang Overath. I'd choose them over Pele any day of the week. My first pair of boots were also made by Adidas.

Aged 16 he joined Sudbury Court in Essex. It was there that Barnes

became interested in the teenager with muscular thighs and ballist feet. Representatives from Ipswich Town, Watford and Queens Park Rangers all paid visits. Barnes however had no ambition of becoming a footballer insisting he wanted to complete his education by taking up a degree in the United States.

Undeterred, Watford finally persuaded him to sign a short-term contract at Vicarage Road. Watford were a club on the rise: the prototype traditional English football team for whom a midfield was merely something to be bypassed. It was remarkable that a player of Barnes' elegance managed to flourish in such a chaotic system. In 1984 they reached the FA Cup final, losing to Everton.

"It was a fairy-tale for us, the journey we had been on from the Fourth Division to the First. We expected to win. We finished above Everton in the league. Yet the build-up for us was like our big day-out. It was a novelty because it hadn't been done at Watford before. At Liverpool there was more of a focus: you had to win. The week isn't important, the story doesn't matter. It's only about winning. With Watford it was almost as if we enjoyed the week so much that we forgot to turn up on the day because



"I saw more of the ball with Liverpool than England – possession suited me"

we played well below the standards that had got us there in the first place."

Barnes joined Liverpool already an international footballer. Yet having elected to represent England, his performances were scrutinised. It prompted Bobby Robson to describe him as the greatest enigma he'd encountered in 30-years of football management. Barnes though has his own explanation for the supposedly contrasting fortunes.

"When I played for Liverpool I would receive the ball 20 or 30 times a game. That was enough to maybe score a goal or provide an assist from a cross or a pass. For England I would receive possession maybe five or 10 times. This was because Liverpool dominated possession whereas England didn't. There was a lot of long ball

"During all my time in international football I can't remember a run of games where we passed a team off the park from start to finish like we did at Liverpool."

You don't have to be a genius to figure out that mathematically I had less of an opportunity to impress. Okay I did okay at Watford. A team that played with a similar style to England, but the focus wasn't on Watford like it was with England. Some games at Watford would go by without me touching the ball but nothing would get said in the papers.

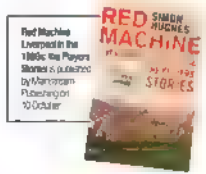
My game and that's why I excelled with Liverpool.

Barnes arrived at Anfield for a £900,000 sum that was believed to be considerable. Within months however his performances made it seem like a knockdown fee. Under Dalglish he was liberated: slotting in as a unique type of winger – running, dribbling, crossing, but moving in-field too. Liverpool's attacking portfolio was enhanced further by the signings of Peter Beardsley and John Aldridge to compensate for the semi-retirement of Dalglish himself as well as Ian Rush.

Beardsley despite holding the natural pose of a posman with a heavy sack on his shoulders, reliably managed to find pockets of space and exploit them, creating possibilities. Aldridge meanwhile was an artist rather than an artist but possessed an intimate understanding of the penalty area and its complexities.

Barnes particularly thought was on a different level. His brilliance was marked at the end of his debut season in the red jersey when he collected the PFA and Football Writer's player of the year awards.

It prompted the legendary Tom Finney to comment: "Players like John Barnes come along just once in a lifetime."



10 brilliant John



THE FIRST GAME

Highbury Saturday 15 August 1987 Over 55,000 are witness to the start of something special. Nine minutes into the opening match of the new season a

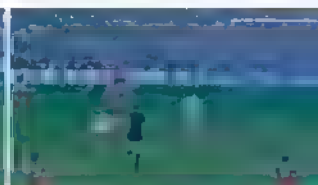


1



THE ONE VERSUS QPR

It has his first goal of this game on Saturday 17 October 1987 was classy – a swift one-two with Aldo then neat finish – the second was a thing of wonder



BLUE MURDER

Two assists in the derby of Sunday 1 November 1987 either side of half-time. On 35 minutes Barnes kills a loose clearance in the centre-circle and threads

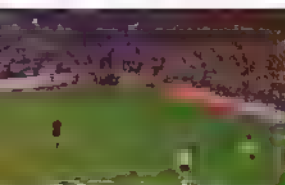


3



HERO AND VILLAINS

In white shirt and red shorts Liverpool are dominating an FA Cup fourth-round tie at Villa Park on Sunday 31 January 1988 but it takes a moment of magic

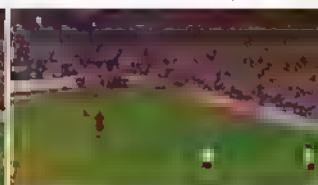


FOREST FIRE

Barnes isn't on the scoresheet in this historic 5-0 win over Forest on Wednesday 13 April 1988 but he steals the show – not least on 78 minutes when he



5



Barnes moments



beautifully lofted cross from Barnes is met by Aldridge's strong header into the back of the Arsenal net. In the idle summer sunshine we have lift-off



Barnes wins the ball off Brock on halfway, skids past Fenwick into the box and slides the ball past Seaman for a goal that brings the house down



through the eyes of blue needles for McMahon to score. On 70 his back-heel leads to a cross and Beardsley's half-volley at Southall's near post



to break the deadlock. Houghton's lofted cross is heading behind Barnes but he arches back to guide a header home from outside the six-yard box



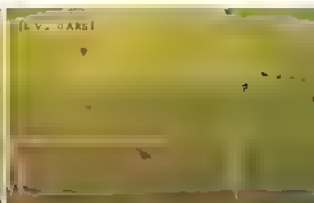
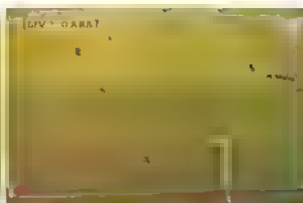
retrieves the ball from the corner flag at the Kop End, nutmegs Chettle, jinks past Crosby and squares for Beardsley to rife home the fourth.





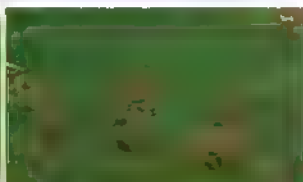
SOME FREE-KICK

It's all about power and accuracy against Arsenal on **Sunday 26 November 1989** as he sweeps the ball up and over David Richardson, Quinn Groves



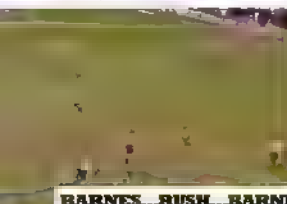
OLD TRAFFORD ARTISTRY

Sunday 3 February 1991 Edge of the United box, Cruyff turn leaves Webb and Phelan queuing to get back into the ground, Sprinter's acceleration past a



HEAD OVER HEELS

Saturday 15 October 1994 and Barnes meets Bomeby's cross with a scissor-kick that flies past Flowers in the Blackburn goal to make it 2-2. As soon



BARNES...RUSH...BARNES

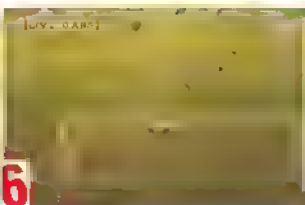
Ninety minutes gone and only one individual inside Anfield on **Wednesday 3 April 1996** has the vision and composure... with five Newcastle defenders



SAINT JOHN

It's a nightmare of a clearance by Southampton keeper Dave Beasant who rushes out of his area on **Sunday 29 December 1996** but it still takes a genius

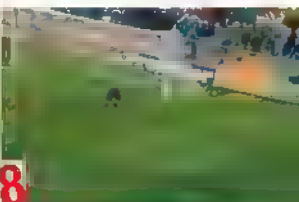




Houghton (of Liverpool) and Thomas in the wall and past 6ft 4in John Lukic in the Gunners goal to put a missed first-half penalty well behind him



lunging Robson. Surge to the byline with even trailing. Pinpoint cross flapped by keeper Sealey before Speedie volleys home from close range



as it went in you thought it could win goal of the season - says Reds boss Roy Evans (but a 1-0 Tesser beller for Southampton gets the MOTD vote)

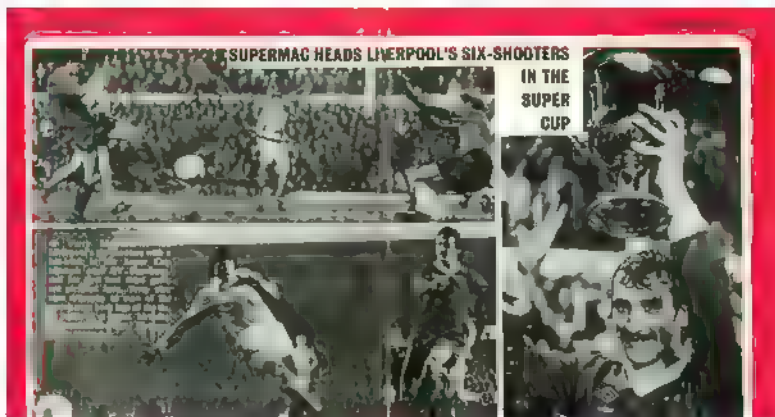


converging upon him. Rush running into him and McManislan screaming for the ball behind him - to pick out Collymore unmarked on the left



to roll the ball home with just the right pace and precision from 45 yards out to put Liverpool.otted out in all-scrn, five points clear at the top

100



LIVERPOOL

(Red Shirts)

- 1 Ray CLEMENTE
- 2 Phil NEAL
- 3 Tommy SMITH
- 4 Phil THOMPSON
- 5 Ray KENNEDY
- 6 Sammy HUGHES (Capt.)
- 7 Kenny DALLISH
- 8 Terry McDERMOTT
- 9 Steve HIGHWAY
- 10 David FAIRCLOUGH
- 11 Ian CALLAGHAN

EV. HAMBURG

(Blue Shirts)

- 1 Rudi KARGUS
- 2 Hans-Jürgen RIPP
- 3 Peter WOLLY (Capt.)
- 4 Edgar MEWENING
- 5 Peter FROHM
- 6 Manfred WALTZ
- 7 Kevin KEEGAN
- 8 Ferdinand KELLER
- 9 Kurt EIGL
- 10 Felix MAGATH
- 11 George VOURET

90 HAMBURGER SV (H) WON 6-0

European Super Cup 6 December 1977

Just months after his much-publicised move to Hamburger SV, a rising force in German and European football, former Kop favourite Kevin Keegan returned to Anfield with his new club. It was to be a night that he'd rather forget. What followed was a ruthless performance by the reigning English and European champions, who showed no mercy to their recently departed star on the night.

Goal scorers: Phil Thompson (1st half), Kevin Keegan (1st half), Terry McDermott (2nd half), Kevin Keegan (2nd half), Kevin Keegan (2nd half), Kevin Keegan (2nd half).

Just before the interval Terry McDermott added a second. Two goals in a minute not long after the restart saw McDermott complete an impressive hat-trick and assured Liverpool of yet more silverware. Keegan was helpless to prevent the massacre and a cruel Kop revelled in his misfortune. In the 88th minute David Fairclough made it 5-0 and the last word was left to Kenny Dalglish, Keegan's successor in the no7 shirt, who completed the rout with a sixth goal two minutes from time.

PART TWO: 90 TO 81 By Mark Platt

GREATEST GAMES

89

**CARDIFF CITY (WEMBLEY)
WON 3-2 ON PENS**

Carling Cup final 26 February 2012



Liverpool's first visit to the new Wembley ended in glory – but only just. Championship side Cardiff City were the opponents and after Joe Mason freed them in front a major upset seemed on the cards until Martin Štěrnel spared Liverpoolian blushes with a 61st minute equaliser. When Dirk Kuyt then came off the bench to make it 2-1 in extra-time the cup looked Anfield-bound. But the Bluebirds refused to accept defeat and this thrilling final took another twist two minutes from time when Ben Turner restored parity. For the fifth time a cup final involving the Reds boiled down to a shoot-out and yet again it turned out to be a joyous one. Steven Gerrard and Charlie Adam failed to convert Liverpool's first two kicks but the next three were successful, and when the captain's cousin Anthony Gerrard fired wide with Cardiff's fifth attempt, LFC's six-year trophy drought was over.



88 CELTIC (A)
WON 4-0

Friendly 30 April 1969

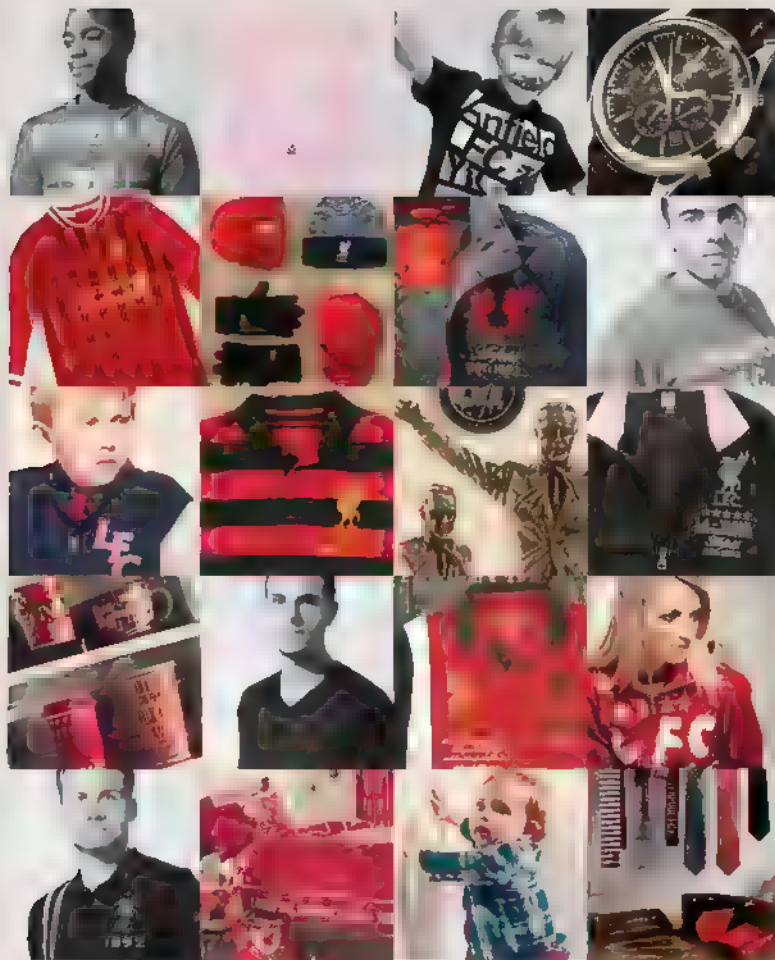
With Liverpool Football Club mourning those who had lost their lives at Hillsborough, the players took their first tentative steps back to a sense of normality when they travelled north to Scotland and pulled on their boots for the first time since that dreadful afternoon in Sheffield. The reception that greeted them in Glasgow could not have been more welcoming as a capacity crowd of 60,000 transformed Celtic Park into an emotional sea of red, white and orange.

A spine-tingling pre-match rendition of *My Heart Will Go On* from the *Titanic* soundtrack set the mood for the occasion. The song, however, was not in the memory of those present. On the pitch it was as if a huge black cloud had been temporarily lifted for 90 minutes. Free from the harrowing pressures of life back home, Liverpool stroked to a comfortable win – although for once the result was not at all important. The game had been a cathartic experience for all involved and a fitting tribute to those we had lost a fortnight earlier.



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85

COLOGNE (ROTTERDAM) WON ON COIN TOSS

European Cup quarter-final play-off 24 March 1965

After goalless draws in England and Germany this close-run tie finally reached its conclusion on a night of high drama in neutral Rotterdam.

It was a venue that many believed would favour Cologne, the team from the western German city (twinned with Liverpool) but the Reds started brighter and looked to have secured their place in the semi-final after goals from Ian St John and Roger Hunt gave them a 2-0 lead. Five minutes before half-time the Germans pulled a goal back and then drew level three minutes after the restart.

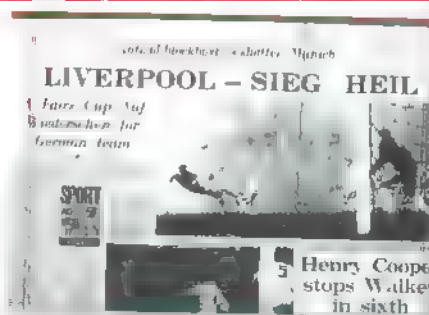
An energy-sapping contest drifted into extra time but produced no further goals and in this pre-penalty shoot-out tie that meant the tie would be decided on the toss of a wooden disc. Even that wasn't straightforward as the first attempt saw the disc land upright in the Dutch mud. Much to the dismay of the Cologne skipper who believed it was leaning more in his team's favour the ref tossed again and this time it came down with the red side showing. Ron Yeats jumped for joy and Liverpool were through.



TSV MUNICH (H) WON 8-0

European Fairs Cup second-round second leg 7 Nov 1967

Liverpool's biggest win for 40 years. They raced into a two-goal lead through St John and Hateley. Smith added a third from the spot before three goals in as many minutes early in the second half. Two were scored by Hunt, taking him beyond Gordon Hodgson's long-standing club record of 246. Sandwiched in between was a Thompson strike while Callaghan later completed the scoring with a brace of his own, leaving TSV president Albert Wetzel to concede: 'I have never seen a team shoot with such power from any position.'



84



83

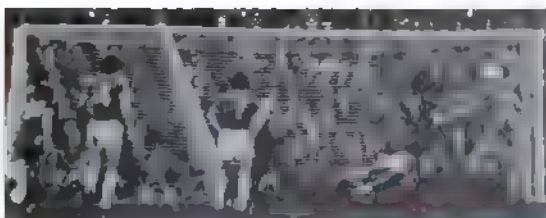
EVERTON (MAINE ROAD)

WON 3-0

FA Cup semi-final replay
27 March 1977

It may have lacked the drama of the first meeting four days earlier which ended two aperiods, but Liverpool made no mistake second time around to keep their treble dreams alive with a comfortable victory at Maine Road.

At one stage it again looked like being another game clouded in refereeing controversy, with the storm over Bryan Hamilton's disallowed goal on the Saturday still fresh in the mind. Clive Thomas asked the wrath of the Blues once again by awarding the Reds a 31st-minute penalty following a Mike Pele push on David Johnson. Phil Neal smashed home the resultant spot-kick but despite their obvious superiority on the night Liverpool's Wembley ticket was not assured until late in the game, with two goals in the final four minutes from Jimmy Case and Ray Kennedy putting the seal on a much more emphatic looking scoreline.



Phil Neal converts his spot-kick (top) and celebrations



81

MANCHESTER UTD (MILLENNIUM STADIUM)

WON 2-0

Worthington Cup final 2 March 2003

Gerard Houllier's team went into this final as underdogs but rose to the occasion under the closed roof of the Millennium Stadium. The early exchanges were tentative but it was Liverpool who showed more enterprise and they were rewarded when Steven Gerrard's long-range effort was deflected into the net off the back of David Beckham. Man-of-the-match Jerzy Dudek pulled off a succession of vital saves before the result was put beyond doubt four minutes from time when

Clive Hamann played Michael Owen through and the striker surged into the penalty area and drilled the ball home past Fabien Barthez. The old three-handed trophy was Liverpool's for a seventh time.



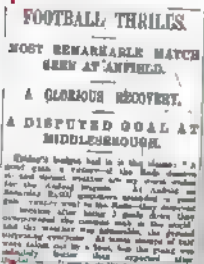
82

NEWCASTLE UNITED (H)

WON 6-5

First Division 4 December 1909

Any victory over the reigning League champions is an achievement, even more when overturning a 5-2 half-time deficit. The champions back in 1909 were Newcastle United and although both sides went into the game level on points it was the visitors who dominated the opening half. Albert Shepherd was their star man, netting four times. But following what must have been an Istanbul-esque half-time team-talk the Reds re-emerged for the second half to mount a stunning comeback. James Stewart, Ronald Orr (2) and Jack Parkinson (2) were among the scorers but it was captain Arthur Goddard who stole the headlines by netting the winner. The result was the most astonishing in League warfare according to the following week's club programme.



NEXT MONTH: PART THREE



ewen macintosh

THE





BIG

LAD'S A KOPITE

Actor and Reds fan Ewen MacIntosh starred in
The Office but always gets star-struck at Anfield





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So you're a Liverpool supporter? Yeah. To what extent would you say that you were a Liverpool supporter? What are the options?

Not at all. To some extent. Very much so. Don't know. Don't know.

So much for the "Keith" version of this interview, the one based on Ewen Macintosh's character in *The Office* and in particular the bit where he has his tortuous appraisal with boss David Brent. Guess what? The real thing isn't a bit like his deadpan, gum-chewing alter ego. In fact get him talking about UFC and the words spool forth at hyperactive speed.

On the stadium floor that he's just been on. "It's brilliant. To be in the exact places where the players are. We sat in the dressing-room. We sat where they sit and you learn why the dressing-room is the way it is. Why Shankly decided no lockers. He didn't want anyone hiding anything from each other. Then we went out and touched the sign. This is *Anfield*. That's what I wanted. I've just teared a picture to a mate of me doing it. We walked along the side of the pitch. We sat in the dugout where the manager and everyone sits. And we sat in the Kop. You walk along and as you get to the Kop they start playing *You'll Never Walk Alone* on the speakers!"

Ewen with Scotch eggs
It's an *Office* thing



And on the miracle of Istanbul. "I was sitting at home in Balham [southwest London]. At half-time I'd given up. My favourite at the time was a Liverpool fan too. I'd turned the TV off and was sat there sulking. He went to his room to keep watching it. Suddenly I heard him screaming. I turned the TV back on and couldn't believe it. Oh my god, what's going on here? There was just something weird about that night. It was strange. It was crazy."

Ewen's Liverpool love affair began in Germany in the late 1970s. His father was in the army so he spent his childhood watching BFBS (the British Forces Broadcasting Service) whose TV channel consisted of old soaps and sitcoms plus the news. And *Match of the Day*. He asked his dad a Greenock Morton fan from Glasgow for a team to support.

"My dad was in the army so I grew up in Germany when I first got into Liverpool"

"He said, 'How about Liverpool?' and that was that. From then on I was a Liverpool fan and I had something to talk about with the other kids. This was around 1979, 1980, when Kenny was in his pomp."

Ewen, now 39, gave the game away late last year on the BBC's *Celebrity Mastermind*. His chosen charity was the Steven Gerard Foundation (for the record his specialist subject was *Twain Peaks* and he came second behind comedian Simon Evans) and he's proud to say he's even had a swift half with the Liverpool skipper. It came about after a couple of invites to the annual charity ball held by the Marina Dalglish Appeal at Knowsley Hall.

I met Kenny. Ronnie Whelan. Alan Hansen. Phil Thompson. I met Carras too. Carras was a big *Office* fan so that was a bit weird. Went over to get a photo with him and he was like 'En Keith! It's Keith! Is this for me?' was like 'No Carras - it's me who wants the picture with you!'

"Then I did an episode of *Casualty* around 2006-ish and I met Neil Fitzmaurice who was also in the episode. We got chatting and talked about Liverpool - that's all we talked about really. Neil had written a film called *Charlie Noddes R&P* and he







the one and only...

Chris Lawler

The story goes that during a five-a-side match at Melwood Bill Shankly was claiming a disputed goal. Chris Lawler famously dubbed the 'Salent Knight' and injured at the time was watching from the sidelines. As the debate over the goal raged, Shankly stroled over and said: 'Chris, what do you think it was a goal?' 'No,' came the hushed reply. 'Speak up I can't hear you.' 'No it wasn't.' 'Chris this is the first time I've heard you speak to me and you tell a bloody lie!'

The quiet man though was strong in the challenge and phenomenal coming forward, grabbing 61 goals in his UFC career, making him the first top-flight full-back to score more than 50 times without the aid of penalties. He was there from the European Cup, he was against Inter in 1965 to the UEFA Cup final against Borussia Mönchengladbach in 1973. Upon retiring as a player he also enjoyed a

successful spell coaching the reserves.

Chris, who'll turn 70 on 20 October was born in Norris Green, one of 15 children, all Liverpool supporters. 'Eleven of us were boys, we could make up an entire team between us.'

1. Back row second from left in the FA Cup-winning class of 1965 with Yeats, Milne, Stevenson, St John, Byrne, Lawrence, Thompson, Strong, Smith, Hunt and Callaghan.
2. Unused sub, back row third from left, in the cup side of 74, with Cormack, Toshack, Tommy Smith, Steve Heighway, Ray Clemence, Phil Thompson, Brian Hall, Ian Callaghan and, far right, what the original Getty agency caption describes as an unknown imposter fan.

3. Chasing down Eintracht Frankfurt defenders in the first-round, first leg of Liverpool's triumphant UEFA Cup campaign of 1972/73. The Reds won 2-0 on the night.
4. Local lad made good



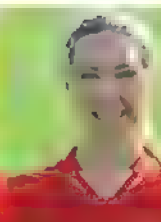


**The first top-flight
full-back to score
over 50 goals
without penalties**





Amanda Da Costa



Whitney English



Katie Donnelly



Leah Baker



Gemma Bonner



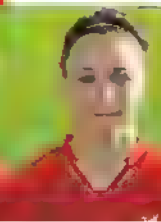
Becky Eadon



Katie Zdon



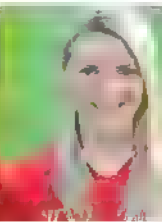
Ellie Stewart



Lucy Brown



Anna McInnes



Emma Schoder

LEADING

The FA WSL season has been a fabulous whirlwind, says Liverpool FC Ladies midfielder Amanda Da Costa

Most likely by the time you read this our title-decider against Bristol will have come and gone.

Before that we had a must-win game v Everton. A rainy night did little to stop the fans from supporting us at Hutton Stadium. A derby match always comes with a great deal of emotion, and for us it was important to play the game well.

Everton were up for the game, and I'm sure they would've loved nothing more than to be the ones who knocked us off the top. They scored within four minutes but for some reason it didn't seem to take me. I had complete confidence in our side and just moments later Natasha Dowie scored the first of her hat-trick on the night. She grabbed her second on the half-hour but a long-distance Everton job sent both teams into the locker room at two apiece.

Our mood remained positive and in the second half in heavy rain Gemma Bonner netted and Tash scored her third. Winning always feels good, but winning a derby feels better!

Before the game we'd packed into the press box at the stadium to do our pre-game analysis. Donna, our 'master of video' had put together a clip of highlights from the season, and in the background she played Al Pacino's speech from the movie *Any Given Sunday*. In it he speaks to his American football team on the subject of life being all about inches and how, similarly, football was a game of inches.

I went to focus first on this idea of inches and what this really meant to my team. Liverpool FC Ladies were a brand new group of women thrown into pre-season together in January, playing together for the first time under a new manager. To sum it up, we were a group of total strangers wondering what we'd gotten ourselves into. Each day, however,



Louise Fonn

Samantha Duggell

Sarah Gregorius

Karen Langford

we continued to grow together – inch by inch with our styles of play and personalities intertwining the longer we spent together.

for training 'full time' – a concept normal for me in America but newer for the FA WSL. While players from other sides spent much of the week apart, we took advantage of the chance we had to play together as much as possible.

Now I fully understand how we were able to get to this position. Our hard work on the pitch is a direct result of the hours of extra work we put in leading up to every match. We made the most of every minute we had together.

Football is a game of inches, and my life is as well! Comparing inches to time, I just don't seem to have enough of it lately. Everything has moved so fast since I came here – it's hard to believe that I've been living in another country for almost 10 months. When I was preparing for my pre-season, I was putting myself through a pre-pre-season the date of my departure really snuck up on me. Since the day

arrived, time showed no signs of slowing down and can't even wrap my head around everything that has happened to me.

In summation, I've gotten the chance to play alongside and against some unbelievably talented players. We trained at Melwood with the UFC first-team squad. I witnessed Fara Williams break a light at our ESPN photo-shoot.

Just think of all the memories of laughter with my new friends. I have seen cities I'd

the opportunity to play on amazing pitches, and been blessed to have people visit me all the way from the United States. When I take a second to slow things down, my year in review is filled with experiences I'd never have had if I hadn't taken a gamble on living in a new country.

My time in Liverpool is inching away. While I am excited to get to be home with my family and friends, I'm still fully aware that our team has a job to finish. Winning a title was one of the driving forces behind me deciding to move my life across the ocean – and don't plan on leaving without raising the trophy.

LADIES



Sophie Bache



Fara Williams



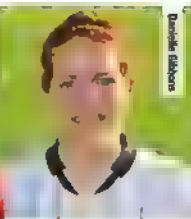
Rachel Lines



Caroline Charleston



Marissa Bowle



Danielle Allibon



Sarah Quarmby



Das

entertainment

Nicole Rotzer (left in pic) and Corinna Schröder have played key roles in the success of Liverpool FC Ladies in the FA Women's Super League

The year 2013 has been a momentous one at round for German football. Back in May of course the nation supplied both UEFA Champions League finalists at Wembley – Bayern Munich and Borussia Dortmund – and Bayern's subsequent appointment of former Barça man Pep Guardiola as coach has been a surge of interest in the new Bundesliga season.

But Germany's dominance of the European football scene is not limited to the men's game – it's also been a golden era for the women.

The national team – fabulously named *Nationalmannschaft der Frauen* – triumphed at this summer's European Championships in Sweden while in May Wolfsburg won the women's equivalent of the Champions League

Super League title. The pair have formed a key link-up down the left following their arrivals at the start of the season.

Nicole put pen to paper on a deal with the Reds in November before Corinna signed in February. The duo already knew each other well having previously been team-mates at SC 07 Bad Neuenahr – a successful ladies team based in Rhineland-Palatinate.

So what do they feel lies behind the current successes in the German game? Corinna says: "I think German players are really professional, so they think in a professional way and do everything in a really professional way. That's the big thing. I won the Women's Champions League with Potsdam in 2011 and during the pre-season we trained three times a day. That was really hard but you know beforehand that if you play in those kind of teams, it is going to be hard work. I'm sure that is one of the key reasons why they are successful."

Nicole agrees that the high standard of players means the league is always getting stronger. "I think Germany is one of the best leagues in the world and we have good players and when you play with good players that always helps you improve too."

Pep Guardiola's arrival at Bayern Munich has naturally seen a lot of interest because he did so well at Barcelona. It will be hard for him because last year they won all the trophies under Jupp Heynckes but I think Guardiola is a good coach and I'm sure he will do a good job.

Nicole, who originally hails from Ochenhausen in the south of the country, has always been a Bayern supporter. "I live between Stuttgart and Munich but I've always been a Bayern fan," she says.

"We wanted to go to the Champions League final at Wembley back in May but we couldn't get tickets!" adds Corinna, whose team of choice is Borussia Dortmund.

One thing about the ladies game in England that has surprised both is the level of media interest.



"Before I joined the team I asked Nici about Liverpool and she said 'I'd like it'"

by beating Lyon at Stamford Bridge cheered on by a number of Bayern Munich and Borussia supporters in London for the men's final the following Saturday.

Liverpool FC Ladies' successful side has also had a strong German influence. Full-back Corinna Schröder, nicknamed Coco, and winger Nicole Rotzer – aka Nici – have been two of the stars of the team that has been challenging for the FA Women's

Super League title. The pair have formed a key link-up down the left following their arrivals at the start of the season.

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Corinna says: "For me, it doesn't

matter if the players come from Iceland or England but the types of players have been really good and it has helped us have a very strong team."

"I like it," adds Nicole. "It's good having people from different countries because it helps us learn about different cultures."

Learning is something Nicole is keen to do. Still only 21, she is currently combining her football with study on a distance learning course for a qualification in business administration.

"It is linked to a university in Germany. They send me the books and I take exams here in Liverpool. It isn't always easy to study but I think I am quite focused."

Since the start of the season, the Liverpool FC Ladies focus has been on achieving the top-two finish that will earn qualification for the 2014/15 UEFA Women's Champions League.

Indeed at the time this magazine went to press, the Reds went into their



"At the start of the season we were a brand new team but we gelled so quickly"

final game against Bristol Academy knowing a draw or a win would secure the club's first FA Women's Super League title.

"At the start of the season I didn't think we would do so well as we have because we are a new team," explains Nicole, who has scored 10 league goals for the wing.

"I thought maybe it would be in the second year that we would be better. But I'm impressed that we have gelled quickly and we have done so well. Matt [Beard] has done a good job in assembling all the different types of players and we have a good team. For the first year our targets were to

finish in the top two but if you ask me whether we want to win the league, I won't say no!"

Corina adds: "Winning the league is really hard. Because it's so small [with 10 teams] we have to win every game and that makes it tough. The standard is similar too. You can lose to Arsenal but just as easily lose to Doncaster too. It's been a tight league which makes it hard work for us but it's also exciting."

Corina has plenty of Champions League experience, figuring in three finals already. She says that playing in the tournament is something Liverpool Ladies will enjoy experiencing at the back end of next season. Her former club Turbine Potsdam won the 2010 tournament by beating Lyon in the final in Getafe (in Spain) while in 2011 the same clubs contested the final again with the French side this time exacting revenge following a 2-0 win at Fulham's Craven Cottage. Corina was also in the Duisburg squad that defeated Russians Zvezda Perm over two legs to triumph in 2009.

She says: "It's an exciting competition and I really would love to play in it for Liverpool against Potsdam. That would be great."



FAWSL TABLE

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Liverpool Ladies | 13 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 44 | 19 | 33 |
| Bristol Academy | 13 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 30 | 58 | 31 |
| Arsenal Ladies | 13 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 29 | 50 | 27 |
| Everton Ladies | 13 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 23 | 28 | 15 |
| Birmingham City | 13 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 33 | 24 | 15 |
| Chelsea Ladies | 13 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 20 | 25 | 10 |
| Lincoln Ladies | 13 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 25 | 7 |
| Doncaster Rovers | 13 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 39 | 6 |

Points earned up to 14/11/13. *Through penalties shot in heading or offside clear.

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BRENDAN RODGERS DESCRIBES HIM AS 'SUPER QUICK AND POWERFUL'. AS ONE OF PORTUGAL'S HOTTEST PROSPECTS HE'S ALREADY LIT UP ANFIELD IN AN AWESOME YOUNG SPORTING TEAM – AND NOW HE'S A LIVERPOOL PLAYER. SO LET'S GET TO KNOW TIAGO ILORI

It's more than two years since Tiago Ilori made his Anfield debut. The central defender ran out in front of the Kop in August 2011, when Liverpool played their first fixture in the fledgling NextGen Series, a tournament designed to expose the best young talent to European competition.

Ilori finished that evening on a winning Sporting Lisbon side described by UFC Academy director Frank McPardland as the best in that season's tournament. Alongside Tiago in Liverpool's 2-0 victory was Joao Carlos Teixeira, now a member of the Reds' under-21s squad. Of the Liverpool side that faced them, six have since pulled on the red shirt in a first-team fixture.

Now however Ilori's immediate ambition is to feature alongside Raheem Sterling, Andre Wisdom and company in front of a full house for Liverpool.

Tell us a bit about your childhood...

I grew up in London and lived in a few places around Kentish Town. My father is English and my mother Portuguese. My English family are originally from Manchester and they all moved to London. My dad was born in London too. The family moved to Portugal when I was eight and I studied in an international (English) school. My dad opened a restaurant in the Algarve. He was a keen follower of football and always encouraged me to play.

You were always interested in football from a young age...

I think it's something that is ingrained in me and I knew all about Liverpool from a young age. As I say, my father is a very big football fan. Who does he support? Manchester United. That's probably not a very good answer for the Liverpool magazine but it's the



truth! But although he may be a Man United fan he just wants me to play for a great team. He's delighted about my move. He told me a long time ago to come to the Premier League if I ever got the chance. That was his advice. He came over with me for a few days when I signed. He even saw Liverpool beat United!



You started your football career at Imortal in Albufeira (in the Algarve)...

I joined them when I was 11 and played there for two years and then I went to Sporting. I would go to Lisbon for a weekend because I was just 12 years old... I would train with my local team and then on the weekend go and play with Sporting.

Was the football culture different in Portugal?

A little, in as much as we didn't start playing 11-a-side matches until we were 13. Before then it was seven-a-side. At that age I don't think you cover enough ground to play 11-a-side football... remember that when I started playing 11-a-side we had difficulty in the first year because we had to adapt. When we were so young I always felt that there was too much space to play 11-a-side.

Were you a defender growing up?

No, not at all. When I went to Imortal we played seven-a-side and didn't really have a fixed position but I tended to play more upfront and used to score quite a lot of goals. In the end, I played in midfield, then defensive midfield. After a while the coach thought I could play centre-back so I moved back there. I've gradually moved backwards.

You also had a loan spell at Estoril (near Lisbon) for a year...

I think that was good for me. I was 14 or 15 when I went there and it was a good experience. It kept my feet on the ground and definitely helped me when I went back to Sporting.

"It was about whether the time was right to move – and I'm very happy to be here"

When you played at Anfield with Sporting you were coached by Ricardo Sá Pinto who then took charge of the senior team...

Sá Pinto was a great coach. He had a big influence on the kind of football our Under 19s played. We did really well in that tournament two years ago but I didn't have the chance to know him for long. I met him, he was our coach for around six months, but then he went to the first team. We managed to win our domestic league that year but in the NedCup we lost against Inter Milan in the quarter-final which wasn't what we had hoped for.

You struck up a good friendship with Joao Carlos Teixeira while you were at Sporting...

We've been friends for a long time. I contacted him when I learned of Liverpool's interest but he also contacted me because he'd found

out about it too. Having him around made it easier to adapt... definitely felt more comfortable than if I hadn't known anybody. He helped me look for apartments and so on before he went on loan to Brentford. It is also a help to speak English... there's no problem with that! Back in Portugal everyone I know speaks Portuguese and obviously my family speaks Portuguese as well as my mum's side, but during the last few years I have only spoken to my dad in English.

Was it a tough decision to leave Sporting?

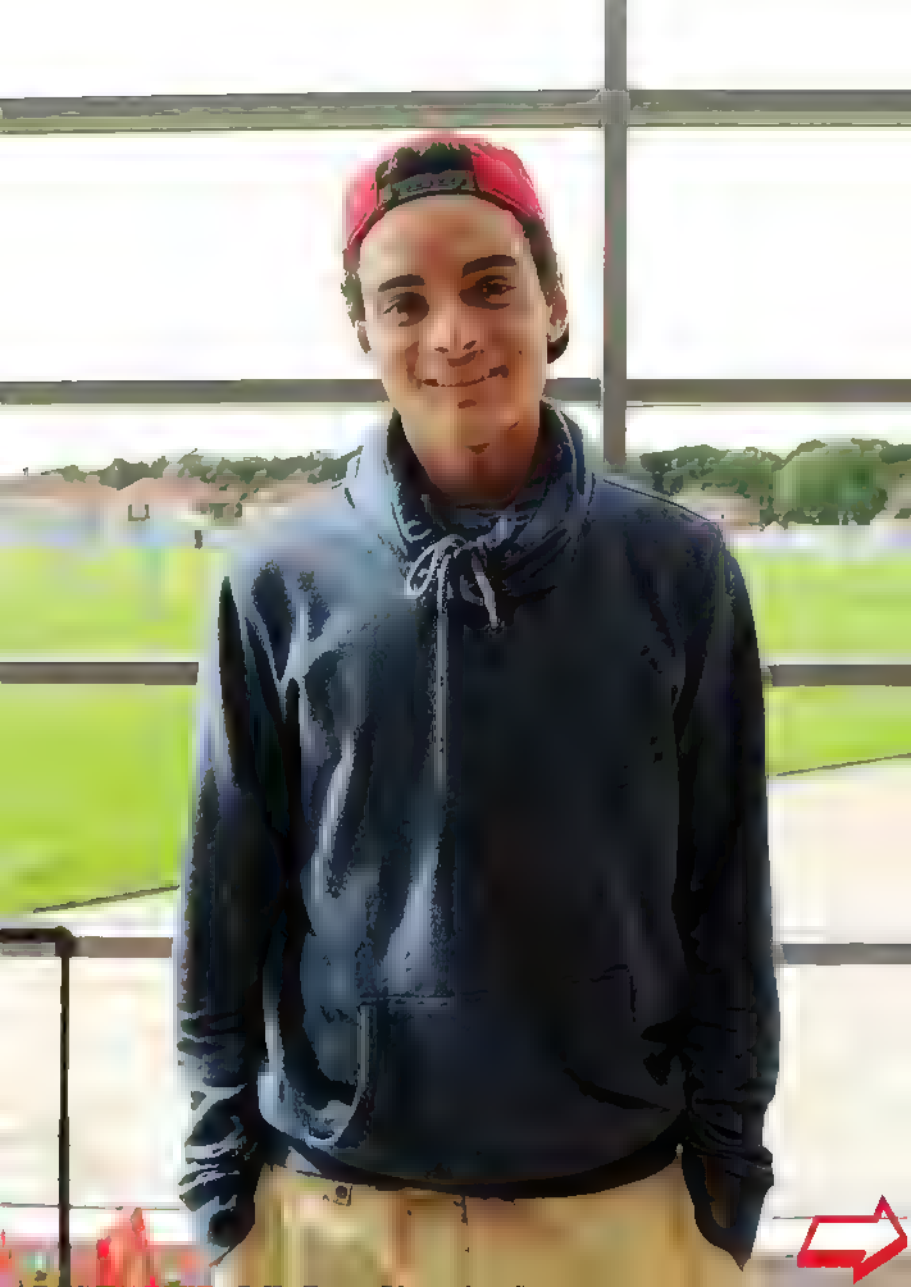
It wasn't a difficult choice as I think every player wants to come to the Premier League in England, and to such a big club as Liverpool was a great opportunity. It was more a case of deciding whether it was the right time to make that step. But I've definitely made the right decision and I'm very happy to be here.

How do you feel about the competition in central defence with Sakho, Agger, Toure, Skrtel, Wisdom and Coates?

There is competition but I'm looking forward to training with those players and learning from them all. Marnaudou also came over to Liverpool on the same plane... he travelled from France and came from Portugal. We had a chance to talk as he can speak enough English to hold a conversation and it was good to meet him... I'm just going to do my best to try and adapt and if I can start playing that would be great. I would love to, of course, but I don't know what's going to happen. What I do know is that I'm definitely looking forward to the challenge.

Training at Melwood with Philippe Coutinho







Along with Suso, Conor Coady and Jon Flanagan, you played in the recent World Under 20s Championships...

We felt a bit disappointed leaving so early (Portugal lost to Ghana in the Round of 16) having topped our group in the first phase, but it was a nice tournament to play in. We would've liked to have progressed further and personally I would've liked to have played better because in my opinion

“I believe my generation of Portuguese footballers has some very good players within it and if they have the chance I think they can do very well

“I believe my generation of Portuguese footballers has some very good players within it and if they have the chance I think they can do very well

“I was at Anfield for the win over United – a great crowd and excellent result”

Would you play for England like your old Sporting Lisbon team-mate Eric Dier?

To be honest I'd like to carry on playing for Portugal. I don't want to close any doors and you never say never, but since I've played for Portugal so many times I know everyone in the set-up and if possible I'd like to continue.

How would you describe your style?

I can be aggressive when I need to be but that's not the main part of my game. I think I'm relatively quick. I like to come out with the ball and try to build play from the back. I also like to go forward for set-plays.

Did Brendan Rodgers impress you when he spoke about his plans?

Yes he did. I'm only 20 years old and everyone used to tell us when you get to a certain level the coaches don't talk to you as much. But already I've found that it's the opposite here. He's tried to help us all.

Which players do you admire?

You tend to look at your own position and I was always told about Franz Beckenbauer and saw lots of videos of him while I was growing up... also like Rio Ferdinand a lot as a centre-back. So I would say those two. I respect all

Heading out to Sporting in April earlier this year

some success in the game but I would love to play like Beckenbauer.

You've spoken about Jamie Carragher...

I admired him as a player. We're different. He's done everything in the game and I've done nothing yet, but also in terms of the way I play and the way he played. We're different but respect him enormously for what he's done for Liverpool Football Club.

What did you think of the game against Manchester United?

It was amazing. It was a great crowd. It was a good first match for me to see at Anfield. Even when I played here a couple of years ago with Sporting there was a decent crowd and I'd love to play here in front of a full stadium.

Your hopes for the team this season?

Watching the team it is evident that they have a plan. I'm sure everyone would prefer it if there was some European competition this year, but maybe it will be good to concentrate on the Premier League, try and do better and next year go not to the Europa League but the Champions League. The way the team wants to play football is clear and that's important in any good side.



RISE UP



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Neil Mellor

At Under 21 level moments of pure genius must be matched with sheer hard work and first-rate attitude



Results and performances are important but in the youth team and up to Under 21 level perhaps a better measure of a player's development is how he reacts to situations, both good and bad.

I was co-commentating during the Liverpool Under 21's 2-0 victory over Manchester City last month. There were two important moments for me. Adam Morgan's opening goal from 45 yards was spectacular. It reminded me a lot of Matt Le Tissier's effort for Southampton at Blackburn many years ago. It wasn't lofted from such a long way out – he really hit it hard and didn't just hope. The ball was struck with such conviction that he must have thought there was a really good chance of it going in. It was a striker's instinct – a natural thing to attempt.

I remember scoring one of the best goals in my career during a reserve game. It was against West Brom at the Racecourse Ground in Whiston. Without giving you a blow-by-blow account, a corner came across and standing out wide at the far post volleyed it like Marco van Basten in the Euro 88 final against the USSR. It flew in the far corner.

Only a handful of people witnessed that goal. The lads in the dressing-room talked about it then quickly there was another match to look forward to. There was no post-match interview, no TV cameras recording it, and few supporters complementing me.

Today football is very different. Within 10 minutes of Adam's goal hitting the back of the net it was on YouTube for the world to see. No doubt he probably received thousands of messages on Twitter commenting on his brilliance.

While it's nice to receive compliments it's important to appreciate that in the grand scheme of things it means very little. I hope Adam would exchange a dozen of those goals in the Under 21 team for a tap-in during a competitive match for the first team.

That will only happen of course if he continues to work hard in training and reproduce the kind of form shown against City on a regular basis. Without having to deal with any extra attention, was able to do that. A few months after my van Basten effort, I scored an



Adam Morgan's wonder goal v City

“How a young player reacts to good and bad situations is so important”

injury-time winner for Liverpool against Arsenal in front of the Kop. Becoming a recognisable young footballer is not easy. The pressure is undeniably greater now Jordan Rossiter is another player going through this process. The midfielder is 16 and playing regularly for the Under 21 team. In the win at City he did play – but his performance probably wasn't quite to the standard he'd set before. Despite that, his attitude was right. He showed important character traits. There was an incident when Ryan

McLaughlin was injured near the touchline. The referee stopped the game and a few players were having a drink. City were one-nil behind and Patrick Vieira, their elite development squad manager and one of the greatest players in the Premier League era, said to the referee: “Are we having a chat here or getting on with the game?” Jordan was five yards away and replied: “Relax. Ryan's still on the pitch.”

The instinctive reply made me laugh – typical of a Scouse lad. He didn't mean to be cheeky or disrespectful. He was just looking out for his team-mate. Vieira was rattled by the calmness of Jordan's manner, not in keeping with an average 16-year-old in dialogue with a World Cup winner.

It took Vieira half-a-minute or so to think of something to say. He was stalling. Hey hey no8. By then Jordan was focused on organising. To me that showed personality. As a young player you need to have the confidence to address something if you think it's not right. It was the right attitude to have – and attitude is just as important as ability. Follow Neil on Twitter @NeilMellor33

STORY OF A

71/72

The significance

Defeat by Arsenal in the 1971 FA Cup final meant the Reds had gone five years without silverware. But the board's faith in Bill Shankly was displayed when he signed a new three-year deal in July - his last for LFC. At the time of Shankly putting pen to paper the name Kevin Keegan would've meant very little to the fans. That changed when he scored just 12 minutes into Liverpool's first league game, a 3-1 win over Nottingham Forest. Signed from Scunthorpe United for £33,000, he would go on to form a strike partnership with John Toshack that propelled the club to both



The league season

Highlights included a 4-0 win derby win over Everton at Anfield, and a 3-0 victory at Manchester United. But the league title agonisingly eluded the Reds, languishing in 10th in February, a barnstorming run-in of 12 wins from 15 games meant they finished level with second-placed Leeds and fourth-placed Man City, all divided by goal average. Just above the trio by a solitary point were Brian Clough's unlabeled Derby. The Rams had concluded their campaign earlier and needed results to go their way to be crowned champions. It happened when Leeds lost to Wolves and Liverpool could only manage a scoreless draw at Arsenal, with a late Toshack goal disallowed.

In the cups

Having beaten Swiss side Servette in the first round of the European Cup Winners' Cup, the Reds were drawn against Bayern Munich. The Bavarians, who would go to win the European Cup three times over the course of the decade, proved too strong over two legs but in turn lost to Glasgow Rangers in the semi-finals.

Liverpool's hopes of an immediate return to Wembley in the FA Cup final were dashed in a fourth-round replay at Leeds, despite the backing of 10,000 travelling fans. In the League Cup they exited at the same stage, beaten 2-1 at West Ham.

Same league

Nine of the 22 sides in the 1971/72 First Division table, including the top two, currently reside outside England's top flight. Coventry City, Sheffield United and Wolves have fallen furthest, with all three beginning 2013/14 in League One.

The tactics

Upfront Toshack and Keegan thrived on the service provided by Brian Hall and Steve Hogchway on the flanks, with Emlyn Hughes making incisive bursts forward from midfield. A formidable central defence consisting of Tommy Smith and Larry Lloyd frightened even the country's best marksmen.



SEASON

In Keegan's first season the Reds put FA Cup final defeat behind them to build for the future

Tenth in February the Reds almost won the title



NEW ON THE SCENE

Kevin Keegan

An impressive display in a pre-season practice game at Melwood earned him a place in the first team and he went on to become a vital part of the side until 1977. This is how the Liverpool Echo described his display in a 5-0 win at Newcastle: 'With the fluidness of a contortionist he twisted one way and another several times, with the ball bobbing between his feet, while [his marker] Bobby Moncur hopped from one foot to another

like someone jumping into the bath when the water is too hot, until he was ignored as adeptly as if a boy scout had roped him up'

Frank Lane

The Wallasey-born goalkeeper joined from Tranmere but Clem's form meant the understudy only made two appearances in three years. During one of those, against Derby, he caught the ball before unfortunately walking backwards over his own line.



LAST CHANCE TO SEE

Tommy Lawrence

With young Ray Clemence the new man, Tommy left in November 1971 to join Tranmere Rovers by then he'd made 390 appearances and won both the League and FA Cup.

Ian Ross

The Glaswegian centre-back's final season on Merseyside was his most productive. Filling in for injured colleagues brought him 31 appearances overall. But when he was dropped by Bill Shankly he became open to a switch and moved on to Aston Villa.

Bobby Graham

The striker had marked his league debut back in 1964 by scoring a hat-trick. A broken leg, combined with the arrival of Toshack and then Keegan, meant Bobby was unable to build on that bright beginning. In March 1973 he joined Coventry.

Alan Evans

Britain's most expensive teenager when Shankly signed him for £300,000 in 1968, he struck 33 goals in 111 games but consistency eluded him and resulted in a transfer to Aston Villa.



| Team | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. Manchester City | 42 | 23 | 5 | 14 | 41 | 27 | 50 |
| 2. Arsenal | 42 | 22 | 8 | 12 | 48 | 40 | 52 |
| 3. Liverpool | 42 | 24 | 9 | 9 | 54 | 38 | 57 |
| 4. Manchester United | 42 | 23 | 10 | 9 | 43 | 32 | 56 |
| 5. Tottenham Hotspur | 42 | 9 | 10 | 23 | 32 | 51 | 28 |
| 6. Chelsea | 42 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 58 | 49 | 38 |
| 7. Leeds United | 42 | 10 | 13 | 19 | 40 | 41 | 33 |
| 8. Birmingham City | 42 | 10 | 13 | 19 | 40 | 41 | 33 |
| 9. Wolverhampton Wanderers | 42 | 7 | 13 | 22 | 37 | 47 | 27 |
| 10. Southampton | 42 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 40 | 46 | 26 |
| 11. Aston Villa | 42 | 5 | 11 | 26 | 49 | 56 | 21 |
| 12. Newcastle United | 42 | 5 | 11 | 26 | 36 | 49 | 21 |
| 13. Ipswich Town | 42 | 4 | 6 | 32 | 39 | 58 | 18 |
| 14. West Ham United | 42 | 2 | 18 | 22 | 41 | 56 | 16 |
| 15. Everton | 42 | 9 | 15 | 18 | 43 | 48 | 36 |
| 16. WBA | 42 | 11 | 14 | 17 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 17. Stoke | 42 | 5 | 11 | 26 | 39 | 50 | 21 |
| 18. Coventry City | 42 | 11 | 18 | 13 | 44 | 37 | 33 |
| 19. Southampton | 42 | 7 | 17 | 18 | 42 | 40 | 29 |
| 20. Ipswich Town | 42 | 8 | 11 | 23 | 34 | 46 | 29 |
| 21. Nottingham Forest | 42 | 6 | 9 | 27 | 27 | 48 | 25 |
| 22. Huddersfield Town | 42 | 6 | 12 | 24 | 27 | 59 | 25 |

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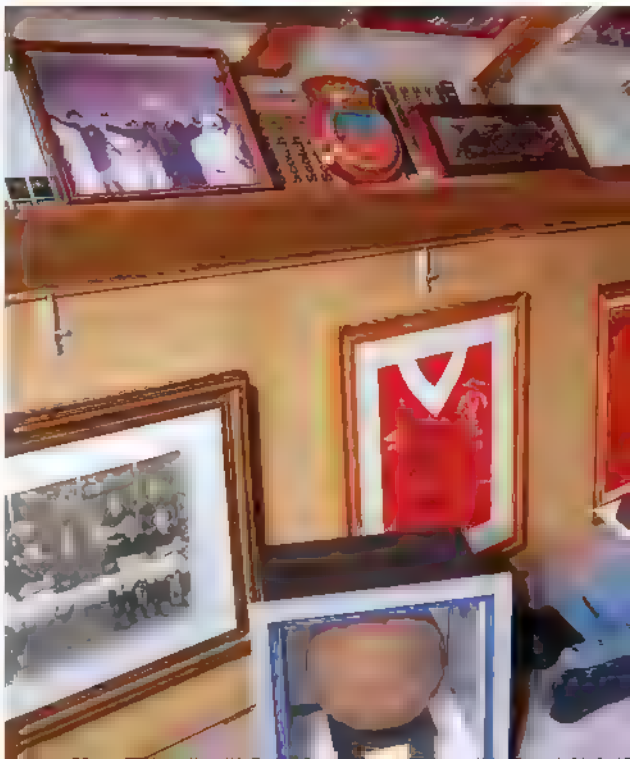
ADRIAN KILLEN SCRAPBOOKS

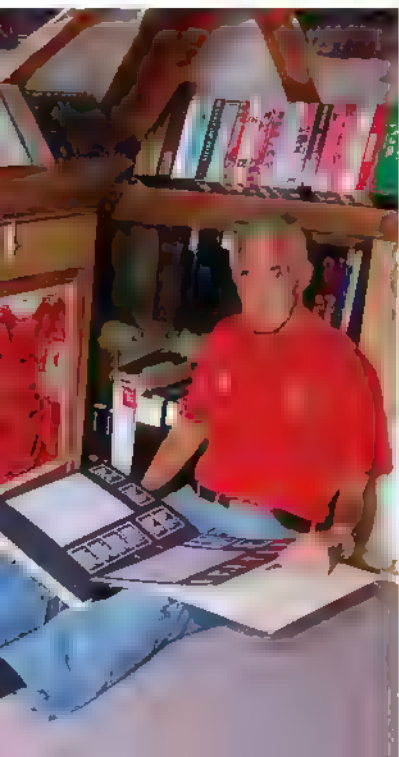
I'm a born and bred Scouser having been a season-ticket holder since they introduced them for the Kop in 1987. I worked as a lithographic printer then at the Anfield museum and tour centre until retirement.

Having grown up a 20-minute walk from both Anfield and Goodison I was inevitable that I should support one team or the other. My mother, father and brother were all Reds, as were my grandmother and grandfather who lived two doors away, so I suppose you could say I was indoctrinated at an early age. My very first game was the 1950 FA Cup final, sat on my grandmother's knee.

History was my favourite subject at school and is still a passion of mine, which helps to explain why the history of the club is part of my support as a fan. My dad kept newspaper cutting and cigarette cards, my grandmother kept programmes and ticket stubs, and my elder brother kept a large factory-made scrapbook that was a Christmas present for him just after the war. This book was always full of football cuttings and I remember making my first entry in that book from the souvenir newspaper produced in January 1955 for the FA cup clash between Everton and Liverpool.

This in turn put me on the way to compiling scrapbooks of every game Liverpool played – and to this day I still collect every match report and photograph of the game. Every





Every collector has a niche

is compiling the match reports in semi-professional scrapbooks as well as collecting images and film of every game.

In the early 1960s my brother bought a cine camera and filmed quite a few games in colour. I continued with a cine camera of my own, then bought a video camera and a camcorder, and from then on I've kept a copy of every Liverpool game that has been transmitted on TV until present day as well as filming video of numerous live games in the last three decades.

My most treasured item is the match ball from the 1932 FA Cup tie between Everton and Liverpool. To think that the great Dixie Dean scored in the first minute so that arguably Elisha Scott's very first touch was to pick it

"Every collector has a niche and mine is compiling match reports in semi-pro scrapbooks"

out of the net is spine-tingling – not to mention the fact that Liverpool's record goalscorer at that time, Gordon Hodgson, also scored with that ball.

I have been very lucky to have worked at the Anfield museum for six years and been able to handle everything at close quarters, including trying on Kenny Dalglish's bench coat as well as Bill Shankly's blazer. But the most iconic thing that would wish to own would be David Fairclough's St Elmer's shirt from 1977 which is signed by all the team from that most famous of games and is on permanent display in the museum.

You can see from the photograph here on the left that it takes quite

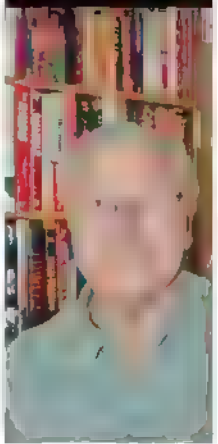
a large bookshelf downstairs, a large floor-to-ceiling cupboard in one of the bedrooms, and the bulk of the collection in a room built into the loft space. As a collector some people think you're a bit quirky and label you an 'anorak' but to my family it's something they've grown up with and they know not to write or spill anything on my collection – or else!

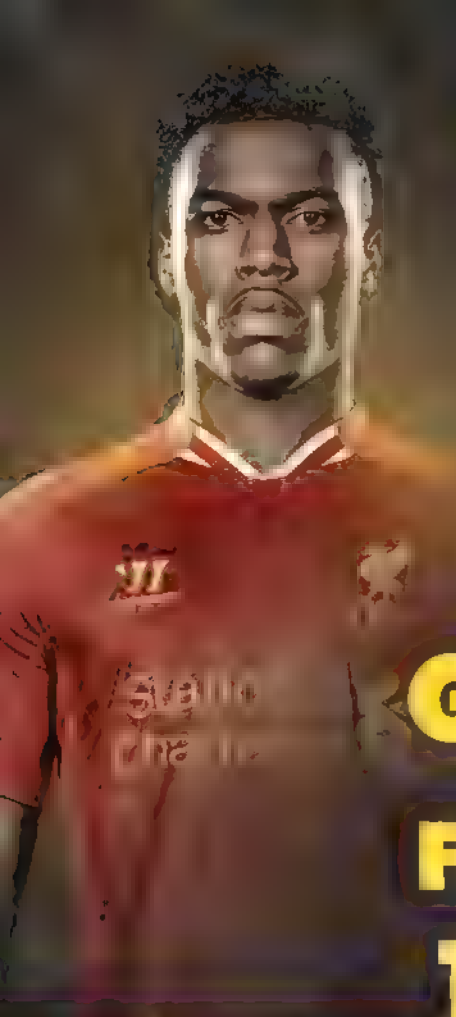
ENG DOIG STATISTICS

I'm a retired medical scientist, aged 82. I was born within the sound of the Spion Kop on Wyrva Road – three roads from the ground (including the old Kermyrn Road). From the age of nine I lived within 50 yards of the Kop in Walton Black Road.

Why Liverpool Football Club? Well obviously the city is my place of birth but there is also the family association with my grandfather, J.E. 'Ned' Doig who was a former Liverpool FC goalkeeper (Iris's research in this field was featured in issue 5 of the magazine, January 2013). I always had an interest in my grandfather's games, and after retiring I researched reserve games. Since making contact with [LFC statistician] Jonny Stickleland over 20 years ago we have been working jointly on all aspects of LFC history, not just results.

I am not a particularly big collector of memorabilia – my speciality is LFC databases – but my most treasured item is a Scottish international medal and shirt badge. The things I'd most like to track down are the 1906 Second Division championship and 1906 First Division Championship medals won by Ned Doig with LFC.





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was born in 1948 and would've been six or seven when my father began taking me to reserve-team then first-team matches at Anfield. He was a Melong Red despite living just four streets away from Everton's ground. In those days under the Main Stand was a big cage into which unsold copies of match programmes were thrown. You had to sneak in to grab a handful and the ground staff always chased you.

When my father attended a 1956 FA Cup tie at Scunthorpe United and brought back the programme I started to consciously build a collection. My own first away match was Huddersfield Town in 1958. The 1962/63 season, back in the First Division, opened with a match against Blackpool who fielded Alan Ball – was heavily into collecting programmes by then, helped by stock bought in a programme shop opposite Everton's ground which was a real treasure trove. There were old programmes going back to the '40s and '50s on sale for 1d and 2d. Programmes were so cheap then that we tended

to swap them via the exchange adverts in *Soccer Star* and *Charles Buchan's Football Monthly*.

The 1965 FA Cup final programme is probably one of my most prized. I managed to get it fully autographed by all the Liverpool players, and together with the match ticket it holds pride of place in my collection.

European away programmes are the

**“European
away
programmes
are the most
interesting
and rare”**

most interesting and expensive.

The Petrolul Ploesti away programme of 1966/67 is very rare. I've only seen it once and never owned it. The copy I saw was obtained via a butcher's shop in Liverpool where I believe one of the directors used to shop and hand in programmes from his travels. It had a match ticket inserted, further enhancing its rarity. Another very rare programme is from the 1976 European Cup match in Trabzonspor, Turkey. A handful of supporters made the journey, and I'm led to believe only about 2 programmes were brought back.

In contrast over recent years pirate programmes have appeared for some European away ties. I believe for a match in Kiev where Liverpool played Dynamo Kiev at least 24 different versions were produced!

The New Liverpool Programme Collectors Club was formed in 1966 for everyone interested in LFC programmes and memorabilia. We publish a 28-page bulletin four times a season together with a special pre-season issue. We have 200 members from all over the world.



I've followed Liverpool from the age of 12, starting in the old boys' pen then the Kop. I began collecting cigarette cards as a lad. We'd hope the smoker had left the card inside the packet and it was a footballer. These cards would be traded and formed into teams similar to today's fantasy football. Many years later, I caught the bug again and have collected Liverpool players ever since. I believe there are about 331 cards depicting Liverpool players.

My most treasured item is a card of Laurie Hughes who played for Liverpool from 1943 to 1960. He was the first LFC player to represent England at a World Cup (in Brazil) and his image was printed on the back of the inside sleeve issued by Tufi cigarettes in 1951. I visited Laurie at his home in Crosby in 2011 and we spent hours looking at my collection and talking about the players he knew. He then signed the front of his card.

For me the 'holy grail' has to be a card issued by Field Favorites cigarettes. It is thought to be the earliest showing a British footballer and depicts D. McLean of Liverpool FC issued in

"My treasured item is a card depicting Laurie Hughes, who signed it for me in 2011"

1892/93. The photo was taken by Hinchcliffe studios in Cazenave Street, Liverpool (between Scotland Road and Great Homer Street). In 1892 Everton left Anfield but McLean, together with several players, stayed to form the new Liverpool team of John Houlding. Only one of these cards has been found.

My collection is housed in albums with pages made from non-harmful plasticiser. The front and back can be viewed and the cards removed easily. Most of my friends are either card collectors or football fans so my collection is always a talking point. My son and son-in-law are also keen collectors but concentrate on modern trade cards such as Panini.



MEET MORE LFC SCHOLARS IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE



Parism

Sixteen years on from Liverpool's only tie against France's capital club, what became of Les Parisiens?



It was five-past-nine on a crisp spring night at Anfield in April 1997 when Mark Wright gave the Reds hope of reaching the European Cup Winners' Cup final. Liverpool had never won the tournament and after a 3-0 defeat to Paris St Germain in the first leg of their 1996/97 semi at the Parc des Princes, hopes of changing that statistic seemed slim. Yet the majority in an Anfield crowd of 39,000 were filled with hope when Robbie Fowler fired in his 31st goal of the season. And when

Wright headed past keeper Bernard Lama with 11 minutes left on the clock, French hearts were fluttering.

Liverpool had never overturned a three-goal deficit in Europe but they almost levelled the aggregate scores in the closing minutes through David James who was sent forward as Liverpool won a last-gasp corner. When James met Mark Kennedy's kick with a header, his opposite number Lama looked on anxiously. But to Lama's relief and Kopite frustration, the effort looped over the bar.

After the game PSG boss Ricardo Gomes told journalists: "The last 10 minutes of the game were the longest and most difficult of my life - I was always looking at my watch. The ball was often in the air and anything could have happened. I wasn't surprised at Liverpool but I was surprised that they played four players in attack. They played very well and were very strong."

Facing PSG in the Rotterdam final would be Barcelona, who'd beaten Liverpool in the semi-final and all - in their own semi-final.

atch



A three-goal deficit would have to be overturned

PAUL LE GUEN

PSG were the holders (they'd beaten Rapid Vienna 1-0 in Brussels in the previous season's final) with defender Le Guen in that winning team. After seven years at the club he embarked on a managerial career with Rennes. He then won three league titles in as many years with Lyon ahead of a spell at Rangers. He took over as PSG boss in 2007, winning the French League Cup. Next was a move into national-team management with Cameroon and he is now in charge of Oman.





JIMMY KLEBER

A defender who enjoyed five seasons with PSG during which time he won two French League Cups. He left in 2001 to play in Italy with Venezia before returning to play in the French lower leagues.

VINCENT GUERIN

was at the club between 1992 and 1998. He then moved to Scotland for a brief spell at Hearts. Now manager of PSG's reserves.

RICARDO GOMES (COACH)

Brazilian centre-back who'd spent four years as a player with PSG in the early Nineties, he took charge of the team in 1996. Gomes spent two years as boss before managing back in Brazil where he suffered a stroke in 2011. He returned to the game last November as technical director of Vasco da Gama.

BERNARD LAMA

A member of the French squad that won the World Cup in 1998 and Euro 2000, goalkeeper Lama spent five years with PSG, helping them to the Ligue 1 title in 1994 and two French League Cups and the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1996. Soon after this match at Anfield he joined West Ham for a season before returning to PSG for a second spell. Had a short spell as coach of Kenya in 2006.



LAURENT FOURNIER

Midfielder who later managed the club. Has most recently coached Strasbourg and Auxerre.

BRUNO N'GOTTY

Powerful defender whose goal won PSG the 1996 Cup Winners' Cup. Later had spells with Bolton, Birmingham, Leicester and Hereford.

Leaves to with PSG new boy Zlatan Ibrahimovic

PATRICK LOBO

A much-travelled striker who won several trophies with PSG. Capped 26 times by France, he was top scorer in Ligue 1 while at Nantes in 1994/95.

LEONARDO

A product of Brazilian club Flamengo and a 1994 World Cup winner with his country, he arrived from Kashima Antlers and spent one season with PSG. He returned to the French club as director of football in 2011, leaving the post in August. Scored PSG's opener against the Reds in the Parc des Princes.

CYRILLE POUGET

Striker who also appeared for FC Metz. Won three full caps for France.

DANIEL KENNEDY

Former Benfica wing-back and Portuguese U21 international who ended his career in 2012 with Greek side Peristerikos.

PSG were only formed in 1970 as the French capital dreamed of football glory

BENOIT CAUET

A scorer in the 3-0 first-leg victory over Liverpool at the Parc des Princes, the midfielder moved to Inter Milan in 1997 and later appeared for Torino and Como. Now a coach in Inter's youth set-up.

JEROME LEROY

Attacking midfielder who had two spells at Paris St Germain. He ended his playing career in 2012 at Evian. He scored PSG's decisive third goal in the first leg.

RAI

PSG's captain, the midfielder scored 51 goals in 145 league games and was also capped 51 times by Brazil.

THE EDWIN

This was the only European trophy to elude J.C. The club's proud roll of honour includes five European Cups, three UEFA Cups and three European Super Cups but the Cup Winners' Cup contested between 1960 and 1999 never came to Anfield.

There were near misses of course. As well as this narrow 3-2 aggregate defeat to PSG, it could have been the very first piece of continental silverware to find its way into the trophy room. Liverpool's historic FA Cup success against Leeds United in 1995 earned them a place in the tournament the following season. Bill Shankly's men overcame Juventus, Standard Liege, Horned and Celtic to reach the final against Borussia Dortmund. Played at Hampden Park, the match was settled by an own-goal from Reds captain Ron Yeats in extra-time.



PARIS ST GERMAIN

PSG were unable to defend their trophy in a close Rotterdam final against Bobby Robson's Barcelona, who included Pep Guardiola, Luis Figo, Luis Enrique and Ronaldo who won it with a penalty.

By that time PSG were still only 27 years old, having been formed in 1970 following a merger between Paris FC and Stade Saint-Germain, the public wanting to see a team representing the French capital doing well. It wasn't until 1996 that they won their first top-flight title but the Nineties proved a particularly fruitful period after the club was bought by TV company Canal+.

As well as reaching two UEFA finals they also qualified for the last four of the Champions League and the UEFA Cup (twice). The decade also brought one title and three French Cups.

The 2000s were less successful but in 2011 Qatar Investment Authority became the majority shareholder. Now one of the richest clubs in the world, PSG assembled the most expensive team in French football history for the 2011/12 campaign after recruiting a host of star names.

Sakho in the first leg, Razon in the home

Surprisingly dipped to the title by title-holders Montpellier, they responded by splashing out a further €146m on Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Thiago Silva, Lucas Moura and Ezequiel Lavezzi as coach Carlo Ancelotti guided the team to their first Ligue 1 title since 1994. New Liverpool defender Mamadou Sakho made 27 appearances.

Ancelotti moved to Real Madrid in June and was replaced by Laurent Blanc. A concerted bid to win the Champions League is next on the agenda although PSG's domestic powerhouse is being challenged by fellow big spenders Monaco. Even so, PSG spent another €113.3 million in the summer on Napoli striker Edinson Cavani, Lille left-back Lucas Digne and Rome centre-back Marquinhos.

AND FOR LIVERPOOL

David James, the BT Sport pundit spent last season at Bournemouth before joining Icelandic side IFV. Jason McAteer still represents Liverpool in Masters football and also appears on LFC TV. Neil Ruddock, has appeared on TV including Celebrity Big Brother. Mark Wright, skipper on the night, he moved into management with Chester City and Maltese club Floriana. Stig Inge Bjørnebye, youth coaching in Norway after spells as boss of IK Start and assistant in the national team. Jamie Redknapp, the ex-captain is now part of the Sky Sports line-up. Michael Thomas, still appears for the Liverpool Masters team and runs his own home security service. Patrick Borgar, attacking midfielder who retired in 2010 beset by injuries. Steve McManis, another ex-Red now working for BT Sport. Stan Collymore, now with talkSPORT. Robbie Fowler, built a property empire and teaches buy-to-let investing. Mark Kennedy, capped 34 times by Eire, he is now part of Ipswich Town's coaching staff.

APRIL 97

In the news

The UK was gearing up for a national election with opinion polls suggesting Labour would regain power by a landslide.



In the charts

R. Kelly was top with his single *I Believe I Can Fly* while The Chemical Brothers had the new album with *Dig Your Own Hole*.



At the movies

Jim Carrey was pulling lots of daff faces in his new blockbuster release *Liar Liar*.

LIAR LIAR



In sport

Sporting genius Denis Compton had died the previous day. Best known as a fine Test cricketer, he also played for Arsenal against the Reds in the 1950 FA Cup final.



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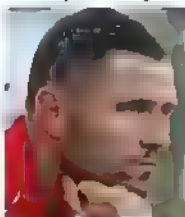
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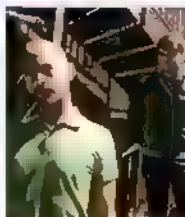
The bit at the back for Liverpool's legions of fans at home and all over the world...



85 Billy Liddell immortalised



86 A Scouser in the Eredivisie



89 Bands of red brothers



96 Your prized possessions



BAGGIES BACK

West Bromwich Albion were a doggy side for the Reds last season, winning home and away, so Brendan Rodgers and his team will be aiming to put the record straight when Steve Clarke brings his Baggies to Anfield on Saturday 26 October.

Albion followed a 3-0 win on the opening day of season 2012/13 with a shock 2-0 win in L4. One of the key clashes could see Luis Suarez doing battle with his Uruguay team-mate Diego Lugano, who was one of West Brom's summer signings. The month also sees an Holloway's Crystal Palace visit Anfield for the first time since November 2004 when they take on the Reds on 5 October.

DON'T MISS SHANKS STAGE SHOW



Ian Laughan and fellow Shanksy stars Ian St John, Ron Yeats and Chris Lawler will join presenter John Keith and narrator Steve Hazlehurst in **The Bill Shankly Story** at Port Sunlight's Gladstone Theatre on Friday 18 October. Tickets for the show, at £6 with £13 concessions, are available in person from the Gladstone Theatre Mon to Fri or call 0151 663 8757. Also at www.gladstonetheatre.org.uk

ahead



ANNIVERSARIES

20 years since striker Robbie Fowler scored all five goals in a 5-0 League Cup victory over Fulham on 5 October

26 years since midfielder Ray Houghton joined the club on 19 October

39 years since full-back Phil Neal signed for LFC on 9 October

51 years since Harry Chambers scored three in a 5-1 derby win on 7 October
121 years since the legendary Matt McQueen and his brother Hugh made their Liverpool debuts on 28 October



BIRTHDAY XI

Bruce Grobbelaar 56 on 6 Oct
Chris Lawler 70 on 26 Oct
Roy Evans 65 on 4 Oct
Sammy Hyypia 40 on 7 Oct
Sebastian Coates 23 on 7 Oct
Glenn Hysen 54 on 30 Oct
Willie Stevenson 74 on 26 Oct
Paul Ince 45 on 21 Oct
Phil Chisnall 71 on 27 Oct
Ian Rush 52 on 26 Oct
Paul Walsh 51 on 1 Oct



O&A: MARK VOLANTE REPORTER/ PRODUCER ALLECTV

First game you attended as a fan?
I think it was against Arsenal but I can't be certain. I just remember being on the standing Kop. The people who lived in the terraces used to come out to play Subbuteo with him. The family had three season-tickets and a game cropped up where they had a spare one. So, went. I can't recall anything about the match – even the score. What stands out is the click of the turnstiles, the steps and the colour of the seats.

Favourite player growing up?
Robbie Fowler. It has to be. He'll always be my favourite Liverpool player. A local lad who scored loads of goals – who else would you want to be?

First player you interviewed?
Asmir Abdurrahmanovic (a midfielder now with Standard Liege). He signed for Liverpool in 2007. On his first week at the club I was assigned to interview him. Unfortunately we had to do it three times. On the first occasion, the mic wasn't turned on. On the second occasion the camera didn't record. The third, it went well. It was in the very early days of LFC TV.

How hard is it separating being a fan and doing your job?
Sometimes it's hard. Always celebrate in the press box whenever we score a goal. I know it's not really the thing to do, but I can't help it. It's instinctive. It's a privilege to work for Liverpool and get to go to the matches but nothing beats being with your mates before, during and after games. Especially the big ones when the Kop is bouncing. I can't complain at all, though. It's a brilliant job.

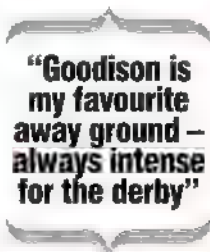
Assuming Istanbul is your favourite game, what's next on your list?
The derby where Gary McAllister scored a match-winning free-kick in injury-time at Goodison Park. I was sitting with the Evertonians in the Bullers Road near



the Gladys Street. When it went in, I couldn't contain myself.

Favourite away ground?
Again, Goodison Park. Whenever we play there, the atmosphere is always intense because it's a derby, obviously. And it's a traditional ground in an era when there are few of them about.

Footballing star whom you were happiest to meet?
Michael Laudrup, the Swanses City manager. He was a great player who enjoyed watching. But he's also a manager whose teams play good football. He spoke very well.



Favourite opposition player?
Thierry Henry definitely. Some of the stuff he could do was on another planet. Nobody could stop him. The way that Arsenal team played, you couldn't help but admire them. Of all our rival clubs at the time, they were the most likeable because of their style.



THE MONTH AHEAD ON LFC TV

The half-term holidays are looming but if you're struggling for ideas on how to keep your little Liverpoolians occupied do not despair! LFC TV has the answer – a whole week of Kop Kids, including two brand new episodes of the highly acclaimed series. Budding TV stars Liam and Charlotte will be back with a child's-eye view of all things LFC. Re-live the first three episodes before nos 4 and 5 air for the first time.

Among the many exciting new features coming up in the next two action-packed episodes is Lucas Leiva and Jordan Henderson going head-to-head in a fairground theme Kop Kids challenge that involves hook-a-duck, coconut shy, crazy golf, ball-in-a-bucket and buzz-wire. Roving reporter Finn visits Mohamed to grill Daniel Agger, we take a trip to skills school with a selection of Academy players, catch up with Mighty Red, learn more about our new signings and call in on the children from Rice Lane junior school to discuss football's current hot topics.

KOP KIDS ONE: Monday 21 October
Kop Kids 10am, 3pm, & 6.30pm
KOP KIDS TWO: Tuesday 22 October
Kop Kids 10am, 3pm, & 6.30pm
KOP KIDS THREE: Wednesday 23 October
Kop Kids 10am, 3pm, & 6.30pm
KOP KIDS FOUR: Thursday 24 October
Kop Kids 10am, 3pm, & 6.30pm
KOP KIDS FIVE: Friday 25 October
Kop Kids 10am, 3pm, & 6.30pm

For just £2.99 a month LFC TV Online will be offering in-depth coverage of every pre-season fixture as well as LFC TV live, goals, highlights, live reserve games, news and exclusive video interviews. For more information visit www.liverpoolfc.com/video

Delayed coverage of every game will also be available via the club's official television channel, LFC TV, which is free to view on Sky channel 429 or Virgin channel 544.





FIXTURES 13/14

AUGUST

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| 17 Stoke City (H) | 1-0 |
| 24 Aston Villa (A) | 1-0 |
| 27 Notts County (H) (COC 2) | 4-2* |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1 Tottenham (H) | 1-0 |
| 18 Swansea City (A) | 2-2 |
| 21 Southampton (H) | 8-1 |
| 25 Manchester Utd (A) (COC 3) | |
| 29 Sunderland (A) 4:00pm | |

OCTOBER

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 5 Crystal Palace (H) 3:00pm | |
| 18 Newcastle Utd (A) 12:45pm | |
| 28 West Brom (H) 3:00pm | |

NOVEMBER

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 2 Arsenal (A) 5:30pm | |
| 9 Fulham (H) 3:00pm | |
| 23 Everton (A) 12:45pm | |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1 Hull City (A) 2:05pm | |
| 4 Norwich City (H) 7:45pm | |
| 7 West Ham Utd (H) 3:00pm | |
| 14 Tottenham H (A) | |
| 21 Cardiff City (H) | |
| 26 Manchester City (A) | |
| 28 Chelsea (A) | |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1 Hull City (H) | |
| 4 FA Cup 3R (TBC) | |
| 11 Stoke City (A) | |
| 18 Aston Villa (H) | |
| 28 Everton (H) | |

FEBRUARY

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 West Brom (A) | |
| 8 Arsenal (H) | |
| 12 Fulham (A) | |
| 22 Swansea City (H) | |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 Southampton (A) | |
| 8 Sunderland (H) | |
| 15 Manchester Utd (A) | |
| 22 Cardiff City (A) | |
| 29 Tottenham H (H) | |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 5 West Ham Utd (A) | |
| 12 Manchester City (H) | |
| 19 Norwich City (A) | |
| 26 Chelsea (H) | |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| 3 Crystal Palace (A) | |
| 11 Newcastle Utd (H) | |
| 17 FA Cup final | |

* after extra-time

All kick-off times are BST. All Barclays Premier League fixtures are subject to change for the requirements of television and/or for other reasons such as player transfers.

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Please check www.liverpoolfc.com for the latest details of and when they happen.

Newcastle Utd v Liverpool

12.45pm Sunday 19.10.13



Away days

With Newcastle coming up Reds fan Peter Etherington re-lives trips to the Geordie capital

A tubby winger called Alan Foggan smashing a shot in to the goal that we

my first memory of St James' Park, says Peter Etherington, author of *One Boy and His Kop*.

That was in October 1969 and

Shankly's team 1-0. Despite the

outcome Peter loved the North East venue. "I'd started attending away games towards the end of the 1960s and one of my first was that Newcastle loss. I'd just started working in a timber yard in Bootle and used the cash to go and watch the Reds.

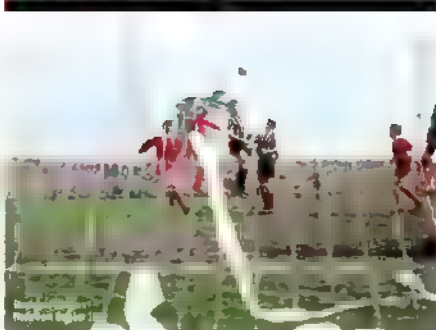
Foggan had trouble keeping the weight off but he couldn't hold move. He thumped the ball in. Although the scoreline was disappointing I was hooked on St James' Park. The ground seemed massive. I think the crowd was around 40,000 but to me it felt like there were 80-90,000 people there. The noise was immense. I was wide-eyed as I tried to take it all in.

There was a real sense of occasion around the game. In many ways the place reminded me of Anfield. The atmosphere was electric. I think I decided then that I'd try to go to Newcastle every season.

"I haven't missed too many games up there since then. It's very accessible just a few hours on the motorway. Having said that, we never been to Sunderland. When it comes to games in the North East it's either Newcastle or nothing for me.

"I first went in 1969 and the atmosphere was electric"

St James' Park



In the first few years of travelling up there we went on a Lawsons coach from Bootle. I think the fare was around 12 shillings, roughly 80p in today's money. Obviously costs have gone up over the years. If we didn't have any cash we sometimes hitched. No matter which method of transport we used the journey was nearly always enjoyable.

Naturally some of the time travelling was spent talking about the opposition and I remember the lads mentioning Malcolm MacDonald when we were going to Newcastle in August 1971. Loads of clubs tried to sign him and they'd just paid Luton Town £180,000 for his services. I'm awful lot of money

he scored a hat-trick as we lost 3-2. The legend of 'Supermac' was born.

But despite the Geordies idolising him, he didn't cause us loads of trouble over the years. In the 3-2 game it was teshing it down so we came up with the theory that he only played well in wet conditions. 'Super Mac's only good when it's raining' we used to sing at him.



"When we were chasing the title in 1973 Newcastle was our last away league fixture. John Tudor scored twice for them and we lost 2-1. He was an underrated player who didn't get too many headlines because of MacDonald's presence. That result didn't inflict fatal damage as we defeated Leeds in our next game and finished three points ahead of Arsenal to become champions.

"The most memorable part of that afternoon was the sight of the home fans in the Leazes End at the



"In general we've had some decent results up there"

any of our games there. A rare one that wasn't able to make happened in 1998. Michael Owen scored that brilliant hat-trick and did the celebration where he rubbed his hands together. He was just unstoppable and burned their defenders with his pace.

"That day, 30 August, was my 45th birthday. For once in my life, I was out of work, absolutely skint, I didn't even have enough money to go and watch the game in the pub. Some of my mates came around and dragged me out to see it. While watching, I wished, was there.

"Whenever Newcastle aren't in the top flight, miss that particular feature. No matter what the league positions of the teams it always has a 'big game' feel about it. Whenever I go there now I stay for a few days. I've been there so often I've got to know a few people who I meet in The Black Bull pub not too far from the ground. That's a great location for the fans to meet together before kick-off. It's what an away trip should be about, plus a win of course.

St James' Park

opposite part of the ground. They all seemed to be wearing a replica of the 1970s Newcastle United kit with the stripes. This was some 15 years or so before the 1970s kit was introduced and became a fashion item. We were scratching our heads wondering where they had bought them. There was no Mike Ashley or Sports Direct around then. Some Geordie must have been ahead of the trend and made a few quid, I think TOFFS, the company who produce retro football shirts, are based in Newcastle so there might be a connection.

"All the games I've mentioned so far were defeats. Naturally you always want to win, but those results weren't hugely disappointing. There haven't been too many at Newcastle really.

"For me the one that stands out is a New Year's Day loss in 2003. We'd



been out the night before and had to be in Ormskirk at some ridiculously early time to get the coach up to the North East the next morning. The weather was awful. It was a freezing day and a horrible trip. Salif Diao got sent off, although I think most of us thought that would have helped our cause. We lost 1-0. Laurent Robert scoring their goal. It seemed to take forever to get home.

"In general, I think we've always done well up at St James'. There was the 6-0 last season and a 5-1 win in 2008/09. We could have scored ten that day.

"As I said earlier, I've hardly missed



Dean Stokes again versus Newcastle

CLASSIC CLASH

**20.09.1987
Newcastle Utd 1 Liverpool 4**

Kenny Dalglish, usually reluctant to single out individuals for praise, described Steve Nicol as 'the star of an entertaining team performance' after the Scot netted a superb hat-trick.

Usually employed at full-back, the dynamic Scot started in a right side of midfield role and flourished. He tapped in the opener before John Aldridge made it 2-0. Peter Beardsley created Nicol's second before he sprinted on to an Aldridge pass and chipped the ball over the advancing goalkeeper to earn the match ball.

Nicol also had another goal ruled out for offside in a game the BBC screened live. The fine team performance was one of many on the way to a 1987/88 title victory that contained just two defeats.



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"We're proud of the work that's gone into the Family Park"

Liverpool FC has won a prestigious award for the matchday Family Park at Anfield that provides fantastic entertainment for all the family before each game.

Four Barclays Premier League clubs were given awards for the quality of their customer care as part of a national scheme aimed at improving standards of fan experience at stadia. A panel of experts from the tourism, football and customer service industries voted Liverpool the VisitFootball Best Fan Innovation for the Family Park, which makes a

day at the football much more than the 90 minutes on the pitch. This follows on from last year's Warmest Welcome win, awarded to the club by VisitFootball, a joint venture between the Premier League and the national tourism board VisitEngland.

Andrew Parkinson, LFC operations director, says: "We're proud of the work that's gone into the Family Park. This is part of our approach to make Anfield more accessible to families and keep junior Reds entertained before and after the match."

Follow us on Twitter
@LFCFoundation

Slightly less entertaining: young Reds (top) and the penalty target area

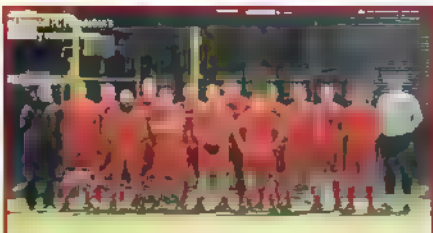
BACK TO SCHOOL



After the busy summer months the Liverpool FC Foundation has gone back to school with a host of new coaching programmes in over 40 schools across Merseyside.

Delivered by LFC community coaches, they help young people improve their life skills through football-based activities. The coaches deliver after-school clubs called 'The Liverpool Way' and run local leagues and tournaments with one school going on to represent LFC at the Premier League School Tournament finals in May 2014.

Non-participating schools won't miss out as the Foundation is setting up coaching sessions aimed at four to 19 year-olds including the LFC Young Warriors development programme offering a pathway to the Academy. Young female hopefuls also have the chance to be coached by members of Liverpool FC Ladies. Mark Haig from Liverpool FC Foundation says the new partnerships "will allow us to reach out to as many people as possible here in Merseyside."



SPIRIT OF SERVICE

Liverpool FC Foundation runs a military veterans programme to re-engage ex-service personnel with physical activity and help to recapture their spirit of service.

There are over 30,000 military veterans in Liverpool and this figure is likely to significantly increase over the next four years, so it's an important area for the Foundation to provide support for troops when they return to civilian life.

Jason Molloy, 24, and from Bootle, served in the Artillery Regiment for seven years which included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He joined the programme in 2012 and says: "It's one of the best decisions I've made."

Weekly training sessions are held for the veterans at LFC's Academy in

Kirby and a seven-a-side football league has been created. Liverpool fan Jason adds: "The football is just a way of getting us together. You don't need to be at a great standard - it's for all levels. I would recommend this programme to anyone coming back from duty. It's given me real drive and enthusiasm to keep fit."

The Foundation welcomes more ex-service men and women to the programme, which is part-funded by the People's Postcode Trust and also units veterans to education and counselling services opening up pathways to employment opportunities. If you or a family member are interested in taking part, please email:

LFCFoundation@liverpoolfc.com





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"It needed to be done – Liddell was a great man and a great sportsman"



BILLY IDOL

How one Liverpoolian artisan was moved to commemorate one of the club's true greats

Fred O'Brien has a confession to make. He isn't actually a football fan. But ever since he was a kid growing up in Liverpool he's always had a soft spot for one particular footballer so much so that around nine years ago he took it upon himself to immortalise the late great Billy Liddell with a special heritage plaque which is now sited near to the museum at Anfield. To this day Liddell is classed among the greatest players to ever pull on the famous red shirt. Such was the Scot's influence throughout his time at Anfield, he was largely responsible for keeping LFC's head above

the abyss of oblivion prior to the arrival of Bill Shankly. In fact supporters renamed the club 'Liddellpool' in his honour.

Fred, pictured above with a black replica of the plaque (the one at Anfield is in red) specialises in memorial and interpretative design. In 1996, for the BFI's centenary of cinema in Britain, he created 263 plaques now found all over the country commemorating film locations, cinema and studio sites and the birthplaces of movie stars.

"I'm potty about cinema and history," he says. "But I've always admired Billy Liddell as did his opponents as much as his colleagues and fans."

Before his career as an accountant, the one

and only time I fearfully met him was in 1982 after he'd retired and become bursar of Liverpool University's guild of undergraduates.

O'Brien decided upon the plaque after talking to John Keith, veteran journalist and broadcaster and author of *Billy Liddell: The Legend who carried the Kop*. Made from photo-mechanically etched zinc, it was officially unveiled by Billy's widow Phyllis and another Reds legend, Ian Callaghan, on 4 November 2004.

"It would be wonderful if one day the club could create a Billy Liddell award for services to sportsmanship," continues Fred. "He was a great man and a great sportsman... did the plaque quite simply, because I felt it needed to be done."

Replicas of the plaque are available to purchase in three sizes. Please contact bembo1700@gmail.com

The plaque in full



OUR MAN IN NIJMEGEN

Simon Hughes speaks to the Scouse goal machine who took Scotland by storm before moving to the Dutch top flight for a new challenge

After scoring 26 league goals for Motherwell last season, Michael Higdon became

the first non-Old Firm winner of the Scottish players' player of the year award since Aberdeen's Jim Bell in 1990. Not so long ago, such an achievement would have resulted in a move to one of England's top clubs and indeed Higdon's three-year record at Fir Park was superior to that of Ian St John's before he signed for Liverpool under Bill Shankly.

But Michael had other options when he elected to 'move at the end of his contract. While Celtic's Victor Wanyama and Gary Hooper headed south of the border to Southampton and QPR respectively, clubs from all over the world tried to sign striker Higdon, who grew up supporting Liverpool from his home in the suburb of Litherland.

PAOK Salonika of Greece and Russia's Amkar Perm and Tom Tomsk made offers and Chinese clubs Shanghai Shenhua and Jiangsu Santay got in touch. Championship clubs Charlton, Doncaster and Barnsley also showed interest and would have been the easier choices of destination.

but Higdon had already played two seasons at that level with Crewe Alexandra. He landed something different. After speaking with NEC Nijmegen's UFC Palsson, a former midfielder at Liverpool's Academy, he signed a two-year contract in Holland. 'I'm the only English footballer in the Eredivisie at the moment,' he says proudly. 'I could've made more money at other places but I wanted to try it here. If it works out, then brilliant. If it doesn't, at least I can say I've tried.'

Higdon is now one of only three English players abroad in a senior European league. Michael Mancienne is currently starting his third season with Germany's Hamburger SV while Anton Ferdinand joined Antalyaspor of Turkey in August. With his wife and young daughter still living in Scotland, Michael meets the transition to life in Holland hasn't been 'too bad' considering the absence from family.

'I think a lot of players are scared to break the routine. When I'm retired I wouldn't want to think I wasn't bold enough to have a go. If anyone asked what it was like, I'd tell them to do it. The language, the culture, the football, it's all different and interesting.

That's what life should be about.

Higdon's career path is one less trodden. Aged 14 he played two practice games for Liverpool's youth teams but the club didn't make him an offer. It left me dejected. Then halfway through a two-hour trial with Crewe, Dino Gradi removed him from the session. 'I must have done something right because we went to Gresty Road and signed schoolboy forms straightaway.'

Originally a central midfielder, Higdon had to change his position after suffering a stress fracture to the bottom of his back that meant he lost some of the athleticism in his play. 'Dano thought I wasn't able to play midfield and I agreed so I had to find a way to adjust.'


Michael moved to Scotland in 2007 first with Falkirk then two years with St Mirren before joining Motherwell in 2011. Until that point his career was marked by two defining goals: one against Coventry which kept Crewe in the Championship on the final day of the 2004-05 season; the other saving Falkirk from SPL relegation four years later. At Motherwell he was part of the side that capitulated on the demolition of Glasgow Rangers to become the second-best team in Scotland.

Before last season Higdon had scored 15 and 16 in his previous campaigns. After Motherwell boss Stuart McCall signed Estonian forward Henrik Ojamaa in 2012 to partner him, his record became prolific. 'Henrik would do all the running and I'd do the kicking and the scoring. It was a classic little-and-large combination says 6ft 2in Higdon. 'Playing with good players helps, but if you find consistency you're on to a winner.'

His efforts were recognised by fellow players in May. 'Any footballer will tell you it's the best award to win. You're fighting with opponents every week and you're never sure whether they like you or not, whether they think you're good. I don't think anything will top moving that accolade.'



Michael in action for NEC Nijmegen against NEC/VVV

A close-up, profile shot of a soccer player with a shaved head, wearing a bright yellow jersey with maroon accents. He is holding a white soccer ball with yellow and maroon stripes. The background is dark and out of focus.

**I'm the
only English
player in the
Eredivisie – it's
different and
it's interesting"**



TOP OF THE KOPS part one

A couple of Reds from two top local bands pick their favourite Liverpool players for every occasion...

Matt Bower bans The Sterlings

Good night out

One of the Liverpool-born lads for certain, Jason McAteer. Robbie Fowler. Jamie Carragher, you can imagine having a good laugh with. As for where to go, the Cavern Club to watch a few bands would do nicely.

Best dressed

I'll go for Jamie Redknapp because he usually looks smart on Sky Sports. The worst dressed has to be Dyke Cesse. I remember a picture of him getting out of some ridiculous pimped-out car in a shiny bubble jacket with his white hair. It's not exactly what a lad should be wearing round Liverpool.

Front man

Well certainly not Kevin Keegan, as my dad and his band The Fourmost played on his record *It Ain't Easy* and he said he was backing it about singing! Plus some of his haircuts were a bit dodgy too. I'll go with Barry Venison - he looked the part didn't he?

Give us a hand with



"My dad played on one of Kevin Keegan's records"

The muscle

Security at gigs normally work in pairs, so I'd have to take two on the road. I'd go for Jimmy Case and Graeme Souness. Can you imagine trying to get past those two with no ticket? I could sleep safe and sound with them.

Roadies

Jan Molloy's got the big roadie look, but he wasn't exactly a hard worker so I'm not sure how good he'd be at the graft. Has to be Dirk Kuyt, doesn't it? He could shift an amp or two.

Five-a-side

John Lennon is the first name on the team sheet. I reckon he'd be a bit tricky on the ball too, bamboozling little runs past people. Riord Stewart can go in the team too because I'm reliably informed he's half-decent. We'll give Noel Gallagher and Paul Weller a run-out and I'll go up top and stick a few away.

Live at Anfield

The Stereophonics because I like their music and they played at Anfield a few years back with McCartney for the Hillsborough Campaign. I'd stick a reformed Oasis on the bill as well as Cast and Ocean Colour Scene. I'm a 90s indie kid so the good old bands would be a killer show.

Not album or league title?

From a diplomatic point-of-view, I'll say the band having a number one. From a selfish point-of-view though, I'd have the trophy, the bragging rights, and the open-top bus parade every time.

The Sterlings' latest single *She Said* is on sale online from 7 October.



TOP OF THE KOPS cont'd

Timo Tierney from Tea Street Band

Good night out

The obvious one. Kerry Dalglish, I wouldn't want a wild time, just to sit in the boxes and have a good chat over a bottle of Cairns. I'd treat it as an opportunity to pick the brains of a football genius.

Best dressed

Filmer/Glen Forsyth/Robbie Fowler coming out of Wembley in 1996. He looked smart, not glammed-up. Pair of jeans, some decent Adidas trainers and that bleached blonde hair. The worst were Sam Diao and El Hadji Diouf, wasn't a fan of some of John Barnes' gear but can't shit him because he's a legend.



"Fowler looked smart with decent trainers and that hair"

Front man

Craig Johnston. We went to Australia for the pre-season tour for a gig and Craig sang *Fairy Cross the Mersey* on stage with us. He's got a bit of the Status Quo look these days but he's got the right attitude. Like a lot of Aussies, he's a proper rocker. He plays the guitar really well.

The muscle

Steven Gerrard. He'd look after everyone. Just with that look he gives. He'd run a tight ship. I reckon. He'd get everyone motivated.

Roadies

Jail's say Jamie Carragher. I know he'd get the job done, shouting at the sound men if things weren't right.

Five-a-side

Bob Marley would be in there because he was boss at footie. Mick Heald out of Shackle because he's a good lad and a decent player. [Bruce] Springsteen would be in goal. He'd be quick across the floor. I'd throw Ian McCulloch in



there too. I'd love to see him and [Bruce] Springsteen.

Live at Anfield

It was going to be The Beatles but I'd rather play with Shack at Anfield. We're both from Kensington, they're my favourite song-writers and Anfield is my favourite place apart from my house.

No 1 album or league title?

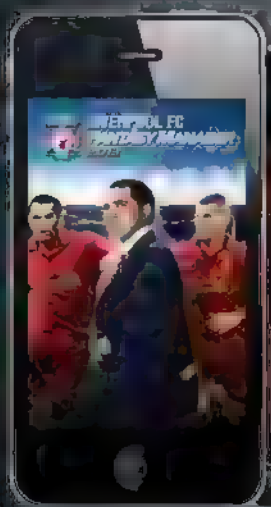
Sorry but it's got to be number one! Music has never let me down whereas football has. I used to go all the time with my dad and my uncle in the early 90s. Then Oasis came along and I realised how much I wanted to get into music too.

"Who are you calling Francis Poulter?"





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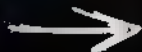
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WISHLIST

There's no excuse for not supporting the Mighty Reds in style and these are just a few must-haves from the **Official LFC Collection**. The new range in its entirety can be viewed and purchased online at www.liverpoolfc.com/store and any Official LFC Club Store



1 Mighty Zip Thru £55

Fusing a modern aesthetic with a match-ready style, the zip and hood go this way, help to take on the elements during the long season. A (360)

2 Silverstone Polo £35

Give your Liverpool FC collection a cool hit of color. Silverstone polo with the three-on-side-go logo that means you're in it to stay. A (25)

3 Mens Bugatzi Zip Neck Polo £25

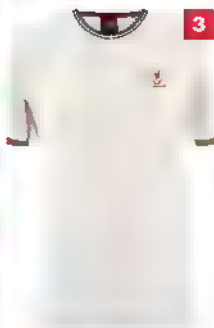
A versatile essential that ticks all the LFC boxes. Black zip-up, on the back, hood, collar and sleeves and a little bit of red, make this a smart foundation for your matchday outfit. A (4)

4 Gambler Training All Weather Jacket £40

Technology meets at match time. Keep you warm, hard-wearing and durable jacket that gets the matchday weather down. A (54/32/3)

5 LFC Moppy Yarn Cuffed Beanie £15

When the club is in a full-on derby, especially in wet, cold and foggy conditions, your head's brought through the season. A (6/6)





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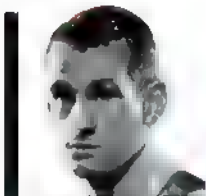
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David PRICE

More competition can bring out the best in our stalwarts

Liverpool looked like they needed some more solidity in defence after last season so it was interesting to see Brendan Rodgers move to strengthen his options at the back before the transfer window closed. Mamadou Sakho seems to be an interesting character. For me centre-halves are a bit like heavyweight boxers in that they mature a bit later and get better as they get older. Most of the best centre-halves are in their 30s but Sakho is a good young player who really like the look of believe they were screaming in France about why PSG had let him go so we're possibly fortunate to get him. Was watching Jamie Carragher on the telly the other week and he was talking about him being a left-sided centre-half like Daniel Agger and where he would fit in but Brendan Rodgers is probably thinking long-term with Sakho.

Competition for places is always good and that's been highlighted with Marian Skirnel coming back in. He looked like he was down the pecking order but came back in and played well in the home league game against Manchester United. Skirnel has had his ups and downs like everyone does but that competition seems to have given him the bit between his teeth. I think he wants to prove people wrong and that's a good motivation to have as a player.

Something all Liverpool fans can look forward to this month is the return of



Luis Suarez. I'm sure he'll get a good reception when he steps out at Anfield again.

Liverpool fans are loyal and personally I understand why he may have been a little bit frustrated because he's too good a footballer not to be playing Champions League football. But he's going to be coming back into a team near the top of the table and hopefully he can still achieve his ambitions at Liverpool.

One thing you know with Luis Suarez is that whenever he goes on the pitch he's going to give 100 per cent no matter what. He's still an idol to everyone at Liverpool and what's gone on over the summer will be yesterday's news once he's back starring in a red shirt again. In my head we've been wondering where he might fit in but Philippe Coutinho's injury may make it easier to slot him in. What is for sure is that it's exciting to have him coming back.

We've only a few games into the season and despite the home setback against Southampton the signs are good. We've got a prolific goalscorer in Daniel Sturridge. We've looked solid in defence and the team has been gelling. It was one thing saying last season was a transitional one because we felt like we'd heard that before. As it looks now though, perhaps that was the case as the players have settled into the ways and beliefs of Brendan Rodgers and his staff and are showing that they believe in those methods.

I'm back in training and hoping to get back into the ring before Christmas with a view to defending my British and Commonwealth titles early next year. I'm keen to get the ball back rolling and return to winning ways, then get back towards where I was heading only this time making sure that I get there.

Follow David on Twitter:

@DavidPrice1

"This is the time for some players down the pecking order to prove people wrong"



What is your most prized LFC possession?



MATTHEW O'NEILL

Goalkeeper
After being loaned to
Sunderland, I could fit in better



NADIA A. ZHANG

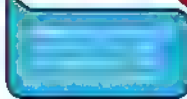
Grasshopper, Zanzibar
LFC has played in
over the past 10 years



My most prized possession is my Liverpool jersey. I have it since I was 10 years old and it's always with me.

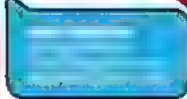


THE HAMMERS
I have a pair of red and white striped socks. I bought them when I was 10 and they are still in good condition.



SEN CROSSLAND

Goalkeeper
I have a pair of red and white striped socks. I bought them when I was 10 and they are still in good condition.



STUART MACDONALD

Goalkeeper
I have a pair of red and white striped socks. I bought them when I was 10 and they are still in good condition.





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